



BRECONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1958

W. F. W. BETENSON, M.B., D.P.H.

County Medical Officer of Health

BRECON :

"Express and County Times," Ltd., Printers.

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To the Chairman and Members of the Breconshire County Council.

I have the honour to submit my twenty-seventh Annual Report with Statistics and sanitary conditions of Breconshire for the year 1958.

The death rate for England and Wales was 11.7, while that for the County was slightly higher being 12.32 per 1000 population. The Infant Mortality Rate is again slightly higher at 21.35 per 1000 live births than the rate for 1957.

There were no deaths of mothers on account of Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion during the year under review.

Nursing Services.—At the end of 1958, apart from one vacancy for a relief nurse, we had a full complement. This, however, is no cause for complacency since at this time we had five nurses over compulsory retiring age, and there appeared little prospects of replacing more than one of these nurses. During the year the establishment was increased by the appointment of one additional General Nurse in the Ystradgynlais Area.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.—This scheme, which was commenced in May, 1956, has been a source of much additional work to the Department, affecting the Medical, Nursing and Administrative Staffs. I would like to record my appreciation and thanks for the manner in which the whole staff has tackled this work.

Ambulance Service.—This still continues to be run by St. John Ambulance Committee as the sole agent. There are from time to time a few difficulties but the small number of complaints received would appear to testify to the efficiency of the service generally. There is, of course, not a 24 hour central control and all attendants are Voluntary Personnel of St. John. This does on occasion give rise to some difficulty in providing escorts but up to the present this has been overcome with the full co-operation on the part of the St. John Voluntary Workers.

Dental Care of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children.—The School Dental Officers devote 1/11th of their

time to this service and Table VII gives details of the work carried out. This figure of one eleventh is purely an estimated one but in view of the increase in the volume of work it is possibly greater than this

This report is the last one which I have been honoured to produce and I wish to record my appreciation of the assistance which has been afforded me in my capacity of County Medical Officer, by the Committees responsible for the work of the Department and by the County Council Members individually, who have contributed towards the happy relationship which has pertained throughout my long association with the Authority.

My thanks and appreciation are also extended towards my staff, Medical, Nursing and Clerical, for their unfailing support and loyalty during my term of office.

I also wish to extend to my successor, Dr. R. G. Evans, my best wishes in his appointment as County Medical Officer.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. F. W. BETENSON,
County Medical Officer.

County Health Department,
Watton Offices, Brecon.
July, 1959.

Constitution of the Committees concerned with matters of Public Health, during the year 1958/59.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Ald. J. G. Eadie, O.B.E., Fronheulog, Builth Wells.

MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL:

Ald. Capt. E. P. Williams, Dollynwydd, Llandewi'r Cwm, Builth Wells.

Coun. Sir W. L. Parker, Bt., O.B.E., The Court, Llangattock, Crickhowell.

BRECON DISTRICT:

Coun. E. D. Morgan, Fennyfach, Brecon.

Coun. W. J. Bevan, 17, Trenewydd, Llanfaes. Brecon.

BRYNMAWR DISTRICT:

Ald. James Pritchard, 4, Clydach Street, Brynmawr.

Coun. T. R. Jones, The Daren. Darenfelen Road, Brynmawr.

BUILTH DISTRICT:

Ald. J. G. Eadie, O.B.E. (Chairman), Fronheulog, Builth Wells.

Coun. T. H. O. Thomas, Talwrnmaenog, Llanwrthwl.

CRICKHOWELL DISTRICT:

Coun. Lady Glanusk, Penmyarth, Crickhowell.

Coun. Col. J. G. Rees, D.S.O., Glannant, Crickhowell.

DEVYNOC DISTRICT:

Coun. Penry Davies, Penrhiew, Trecastle.

Coun. David Lewis. M.B.E., Padest, Sennybridge.

HAY AND TALGARTH DISTRICT:

Coun. J. V. Like, Skynlais House, Church Street, Hay-on-Wye.

Ald. T. Havard, Little Lodge, Three Cocks, Brecs.

VAYNOR DISTRICT:

Coun. Mrs. M. E. Morgan, 3, The Copse, Trefechan, Cefn Coed.

Coun. P. Lewis, Ashfield House, Cefn Coed.

YSTRADGYNLAIS DISTRICT:

Coun. J. E. Williams, Tanybedw, Cwmgiedd, Ystradgynlais.

Coun. John Hughes, Gwynfryn, Penycae, Swansea Valley.

Ald. Mrs. C. O. Williams, Plasgwyn, Abercrave.

Coun. W. J. Millichap, Llwynnoyadd Farm, Llandefalle, Nr. Brecon

Coun. E. W. McIntosh, Dinas View, Clydach, Nr. Abergavenny.

Coun. Mrs. M. M. Prosser, Lletty Dafydd, Ystradgynlais.

Coun. F. D. Jones, 38, Station Road, Hirwaun, Nr. Aberdare.

Coun. Anthony Rees, Warwick House, Warwick Road, Brynmawr.

MEMBERS CO-OPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:

Dr. T. L. Davies, Aelybryn, Llanhamlach.

County Ambulance Service Transport Sub-Committee.

Chairman: Coun. J. E. Williams, Tanybedw, Cwmgiedd, Ystradgynlais

BRECON DISTRICT.

Coun. W. J. Bevan, 17, Trenewydd, Llanfaes, Brecon.

Coun. E. D. Morgan, Fennyfach, Brecon.

BRYNMAWR DISTRICT.

Coun. T. R. Jones, The Daren, Darenfelen Road, Brynmawr

Coun. Anthony Rees, Warwick House, Warwick Road, Brynmawr.

BUILTH DISTRICT,

Ald. J. G. Eadie, O.B.E., Fronheulog, Builth Wells.

Coun. T. H. O. Thomas, Talwrnmaenog, Llanwrthwl.

CRICKHOWELL DISTRICT.

Coun. Lady Glanusk, Penmyarth, Crickhowell.

Coun. Col. J. G. Rees, D.S.O., Glannant, Crickhowell.

DEFYNNOG DISTRICT.

Coun. David Lewis, M.B.E., Padest, Sennybridge.

Coun. Penry Davies, Penrhiew, Trecastle.

HAY AND TALGARTH DISTRICT.

Coun. J. V. Like, Skynlais House, Church Street, Hay-on-Wye.

Coun. W. J. Millichap, Llwynoyadd, Llandefalle, Near Brecon.

VAYNOR DISTRICT.

Coun. F. D. Jones, 38, Station Road, Hirwaun, Nr. Aberdare.

Coun. Mrs. M. E. Morgan, 3, The Copse, Trefechan, Merthyr Tydfil.

YSTRADGYNLAIS DISTRICT.

Coun. John Hughes, Gwynfryn, Penycae, Swansea Valley.

Coun. J. E. Williams (Chairman), Tanybedw, Cwmgiedd, Ystradgynlais.

MEMBERS REPRESENTING OUTSIDE BODIES.

BRECON AND RADNOR HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

Vacancy.

ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

Brig. V. J. L. Napier, M.C., Glan Usk, Sennybridge.

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Vacancy.

TRANSPORT OFFICER.

C. H. Smith, Esq., M.B.E., W.H.S.A. Department, Priory House, 4, Cathedral Road, Cardiff.

BUILTH STATION REPRESENTATIVE.

Mrs. Violet Bond, White House, Builth Wells.

CRICKHOWELL STATION REPRESENTATIVE.

Mr. R. G. Jones, Castle Garage, Crickhowell.

BRECON STATION REPRESENTATIVE

Vacancy.

HAY STATION REPRESENTATIVE.

Mrs. Wilson, 13, Broad Street, Hay-on-Wye.

YSTRADGYNLAIS AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.

Mr. William Lewis, Maes-y-llan, Station Road, Ystradgynlais.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Coun. W. J. Millichap, Llwynnoyadd Farm, Llandefalle, Nr. Brecon.

BRECON DISTRICT.

Coun. W. J. Bevan, 17, Trenewydd, Llanfaes, Brecon.
Coun. E. D. Morgan, Fennyfach, Brecon.

BRYNMAWR DISTRICT.

Ald. J. Pritchard, 4, Clydach Street, Brynmawr.
Coun. E. W. McIntosh, Dinas View, Clydach.

BUILTH DISTRICT.

Ald. J. G. Eadie, O.B.E., Fronheuiog, Builth Wells.
Coun. T. H. O. Thomas, Talwrnmaenog, Llanwrthwl, Nr. Llandrindod. Wells.

CRICKHOWELL DISTRICT.

Coun. Lady Glanusk, Penmyarth, Crickhowell.
Coun. Col. J. G. Rees, D.S.O., Glannant, Crickhowell.

DEFYNNOG DISTRICT.

Coun. David Lewis, M.B.E., Padest, Sennybridge.
Coun. Penry Davies, Penrhiew, Trecastle.

HAY AND TALGARTH DISTRICT.

Coun. J. V. Like, Skynlais House, Church Road, Hay-on-Wye.
Coun. D. P. Hopkins, Brynteg, Bronllys, Brecon.

VAYNOR DISTRICT.

Coun. F. D. Jones, 38, Station Road, Hirwaun, Nr. Aberdare.
Coun. Mrs. M. E. Morgan, 3, The Copse, Trefechan, Cefn Coed.

YSTRADGYNLAIS DISTRICT.

Coun. John Hughes, Gwynfryn, Penycae, Swansea Valley.
Coun. J. E. Williams, Tanybedw, Cwmgiedd, Ystradgynlais.

Coun. W. J. Millichap, Llwynnoyadd Farm, Llandefalle, Nr. Brecon.
Dr. T. L. Davies, Aelybryn, Llanhamlach.

LADY MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE COMMITTEE.

Coun. Mrs. M. M. Prosser, Llety Dafydd, Ystradgynlais.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL.

County M.O.H. and Principal School M.O. (Tele. Brecon 214)	W. F. W. Betenson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy C.M.O.H. and School M.O.	R. G. Evans, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., C.P.H., D.P.H..
Assistant C.M.O.H. and School M.O.	C. M. Evans, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

DENTAL.

Principal Dental Officer:	Mr. J. H. Sutcliffe, L.D.S.
Dental Officer:	Mr. P. G. George, L.D.S.
" " "	Vacancy
Dental Attendant.	Miss M. Anthony.
" "	Miss W. A. P. Mills.

NURSING.

Superintendent Nursing Officer.

Miss E. M. Main. Brecon. (Tele.—Brecon 214).	Area Covered. Whole County.
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Health Visitors (and School Nurses).

Miss E. G. Morgan, Brynmawr.	Brynmawr Urban.
Miss S. M. Thickens, Cefn Coed.	Hirwaun (Part), Penderyn (Cefncoedycymmer), Nantddu, Hepste Hamlet, Ystradfellte, Pontneathvaughan, Torpantau, Cross Bychan, Rhigos (Part), Vaynor (Cefncoedycwmmmer), Vaynor (Gelly and Duffryn), Dolygaer, Cwmtaff, Vaynor (Nantddu), Llanfeigan (Pontsarn), Llandetty (Pontsticill).
Mrs. J. Silk, 9, Victoria Terrace, Crickhowell.	Ffawyddog, Crickhowell, Llangattock, Cwmdy, Llanbedr, Llangenny, Llangrwyney, Grwynefechan, Tretower, Partrishow, Forest Coalpit (Part), Llanelly (Clydach), Llanelly (Darenfelen).
Miss C. Williams, Ystradgynlais.	Abercrave, Penycae, Caehopkin Colbren, Penwyllt, Onllwyn, Seven Sisters (Part). Glyntawe, Cwmtwrch.
Mrs. A. R. Evans, Ystradgynlais.	Ystradgynlais, Yniscedwyn, Gurnos, Cynlais, Cwmgiedd, Penrhos, Glanrhyd.
Mrs. M. A. Francis, Brecon.	Brecon Urban (except Llanfaes, Dering Lines and Dorlangoch).

District Nurses/Midwives/Health Visitors.

Miss M. L. Evans, 28, Penpentre, Talybont-on-Usk. (Tele.—Talybont-on-Usk 265).	Talybont, Llanfrynach, Aber, Pencelly, Cross Oak, Llanfeigan, Cantref (Part), Llandetty, Llangynidr, Duffryn Crownon.
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District Nurses/Midwives/Health Visitors—Continued.

	Area Covered.
Miss A. M. R. Isitt, 50, Orchard Street, Brecon. (Tele.—Brecon 38).	General Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting: Aberyscir, Battle, Castle-madoc, Cradoc, Merthyr Cynog, Felinfach, Llanddew, Llandefaelog, Pontfaen, Fenny-fach, Lower Chapel, Upper Chapel, Talachddu, Garthbrengy, Dering Lines and Dorlangoch. Health Visiting: Cathedine, Bwlch, Llangasty, Tallyllyn, Llangorse, Llan-Tallyllyn, Llanhamlach, Llanwern, Llechfaen, Scethrog, Llansantffraed and Pennorth.
Mrs. A. G. Thomas, 5, Heol Sant Cattwg, Llanspyddid, Brecon. (Tele.—Brecon 646).	General Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting: St. David's Without, Glyn, Modrydd, Dinas, Libanus, Cantref, Llanspyddid. Health Visiting: Sennybridge, Maescar, Defynock, Cray, Llanfihangel Nantbran, Llandilofane, Ciliene, Trecastle, Ysclydach, Aberpedwr, Trallong, Aberbran, Penpont, Pentrefelin, Traianglas,
Mrs. E. M. Williams, 2, Ffynnon Dewi, Llanfaes, Brecon. (Tele.—Brecon 405).	Brecon (Llanfaes), St. David's Within.
Mrs. F. M. Bound, Fir Tree Cottage, Talgarth. (Tele.—Talgarth 66).	Talgarth, Bronllys, Pengefnffordd, Pontybat, Llanfillo, Llandefalle, Colebrook. Trefecca, Trefeinon, Llanellieu.
Mrs. G. Jones, Glanavon, Castle St., Builth Wells. (Tele.—Builth Wells 2165).	Builth Wells, Llandewi'r Cwm, Llanganten, Llangynog, Llanynis, Maesmynis, Rhosferig, Alltmawr, Cilmery.
Mrs. C. M. Bowen, 2a Flat, Gypsy Castle Estate, Hay-on-Wye. (Tele.—Hay-on-Wye 39).	Hay Urban and Part of Hay Rural.
Mrs. I. M. Williams, 42, Lansbury Road, Brynmawr. (Tele.—Brynmawr 367).	Darenfelen, Llanelly Hill, Brynmawr (West).
Mrs. E. J. Davies, Parc Wyn, Three Cocks, (Tele.—Glasbury 60).	Llanigon, Glasbury, Velindre, Three Cocks, Pipton, Tregoyd, Pontithel, Hay Rural (Part), Aberllynfi.
Miss F. M. Davies, Dolfari, Beulah, Llanwrtyd Wells. (Tele.—Llangammarch 212).	Garth, Llwynmadoc, Llanafanfawr, Llanlleonfel, Llanfihangel-Abergwessin, Part of Treflis, Beulah, Llanafanfychan.
Mrs. A. Messer, Applegarth, Erwood, Builth Wells. (Tele.—Erwood 214).	Llyswen, Crickadarn, Gwenddwr, Erwood Llaneglwys.

District Nurses/Midwives/ Health Visitors.**Area Covered.**

- | | |
|--|--|
| Miss E. R. Page,
3, Trawscoed Villas,
Llanwrtyd Wells.
(Tele.—Llanwrtyd 223). | Llanwrtyd, Llandulas, Llandewi-Aber-
gwessin, Penbualt, Treflis, Llangamarch.
Gwarafog, Part of Llanfihangel-Aber-
gwessin. |
|--|--|

District Nurses/Midwives.

- | | |
|---|--|
| Miss E. T. Thomas,
18, Plasderwen,
Llangattock,
Crickhowell.
(Tel. Crickhowell 83). | Llangattock, Llanbedr, Llangenny, Cwmd
(Part), Tretower, Grwynefechan, Par-
trishow, Llangrwyney, Forest Coalpit
(Part), Crickhowell. |
| Mrs. M. Sier,
2, Crabtree Walk,
Trefechan, Cefn Coed,
Nr. Merthyr Tydfil.
(Tele.—Merthyr Tydfil 852). | Cefn Coed, Gelly, Pontsticill, Dolygaer,
Pontsarn. |
| Miss D. G. Berry,
2, George Street,
Brecon.
(Tele.—Brecon 431). | Brecon Urban (Except Llanfaes, Dering
Lines, and Dorlangoch). |
| Miss E. P. Stoddart,
1, Elm Grove,
Hirwaun.
(Tele.—Hirwaun 291). | Hirwaun (Part), Penderyn, Ystradfellte,
Pontneathvaughan. |
| Miss A. E. Williams,
Tyglyd,
Sennybridge
(Tele.—Sennybridge 347). | Sennybridge, Defynock, Pentrefelin, Cray.
Llanfihangel - Nant - Bran, Llandilofane.
Traianglas, Traianmawr, Ciliene, Trecastle,
Yscltydach, Aberpedwar, Trallong, Aber-
bran, Senny. |
| Mrs. Dulcie Lewis,
18, Brynawelon,
Colbren.
(Tele.—Seven Sisters 292). | Colbren, Penwyllt, Onllwyn, Seven Sisters
(Part). Abercrave, Penycae, Caehopkin,
Glyntawe. |
| Miss M. A. Davies,
Brynteg,
Bwlch, Brecs.
(Tele.—Bwlch 240). | Cathedine, Bwlch, Part of Cwmd, Llan-
gorse, Llanfihangel - Tallyllyn, Llangasty.
Tallyllyn, Llanwern, Llechfaen, Scethrog
Llanhamlach, Llansantfraed, Pennorth. |
| Mrs. S. Marsh,
9, Lynden,
Gurnos,
Lower Cwmtwrch.
(Tele.—Glantawe 2265). | Ystradgynlais and Cwmtwrch. |
| Mrs. I. M. Jenkins,
9, Danycoed,
Clydach.
(Tele.—Gilwern 242). | Llanelly (Clydach), Llanelly (Darenfelen). |

District Midwives.

- | | |
|---|--------------------------|
| Miss J. Smith,
Glanrhyd Farm,
Glanrhyd,
Ystradgynlais.
(Tele.—Glantawe 3167). | Cwmtwrch, Ystradgynlais. |
| Mrs. I. E. Chilton,
Colindale Bungalow,
Brynmawr.
(Tele.—Brynmawr 330). | Brynmawr (East). |

District Nurses.

Nurse S. E. H. Paige,
30, Heolmeurig,
Lower Cwmtwrch.
(Tele.—Glantawe 3294).

Ystradgynlais.

Nurse C. Hughes,
63, Garn Road,
Nantyglo, Mon.
(Tele.—Brynmawr 296).

Brynmawr Urban.

Relief Nurses/Midwives.

Miss M. M. Jones,
Westlyn, Garth Road,
Builth Wells.
(Tele.—Builth Wells 3121).

Relief Nurse, Northern Area: Builth, Llan-
wrttyd, Erwood, Llwynmadoc, etc.

Mrs E. Powell,
Brynglas,
Brecon Road, Abercrave.
(Tele.—Abercrave 252).

Relief Nurse, South Western Area: Ystrad-
gynlais, etc.

Vacancy.

Relief Nurse, South Eastern: Brecon,
Crickhowell, Hay, Talgarth, Brynmawr,
etc.

Mrs. M. D. Gordon (Temp.),
7, The Green,
Trefechan, Cefn Coed.
(Tele.—Merthyr Tydfil 3130)

Relief Nurse, Southern: Cefn and Vaynor
Defynock, etc.

ORTHOPAEDIC.

Orthopaedic Nurse.

Miss I. B. Leefe,
Honddu House, Castle Street, Brecon.

MENTAL WELFARE.

Duly Authorised
Officers.

Mr. H. G. Edwards,
13, The Watton, Brecon
(Tele. Brecon 240).

Mr. D. J. Davies,
Welfare Office, Lower Bailey St., Brynmawr
(Tele. Brynmawr 254).

Mr. W. B. Hargest,
c/o Mason's Arms Talgarth
(Tele. Talgarth 50).

Mr. D. W. Chambers,
Abertaff, Cefn Coed, Nr. Merthyr Tydfil
(Tele. Merthyr Tydfil 386).

Mr. Wm. T. Davies,
Peglers Buildings, Ystradgynlais
(Tele. Glantawe 3104).

CLERICAL.

Chief Clerk.
Senior Clerk.

Mr. R. I. Jones.

Mr. R. E. Page,

Mr. I. Lewis,

Mr. T. Jones.

Miss F. J. Thorogood

Mrs. S. J. Wall.

Miss E. Lewis

Mrs. Margaret Powell.

Miss L. R. Morgan

Mr. L. R. Price

Miss G. M. Rees (Resigned 31/8/58)

Mr. T. A. P. Carvell

Miss M. Hope (Commenced 7/11/58)

Mr. D. W. Foster

Welfare Foods Clerk.

MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH IN THE COUNTY.

Brecon Urban; and Rural:	}	Dr. T. C. R. George, Guild Hall, Brecon (Tel.: Brecon 26).
Builth Urban; and Rural:		
Hay Urban; and Rural:		
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban:		
Brynmawr Urban:	}	Dr. J. Tate, Crossley House, Great Oak Road, Crickhowell. (Tel.: Crickhowell 123).
Crickhowell Rural:		
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural:		
Ystradgynlais Rural:		

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS IN THE COUNTY.

Brecon Urban:	Mr. S. Jinks, C.R.S.H., M.S.I.A., Municipal Offices, Steeple Lane, Brecon.
Brynmawr Urban:	Mr. D. A. Jones, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.H., A.I.Hsg., Council Offices, Bryn- mawr.
Builth Wells Urban:	Mr. J. G. Morgan, M.R.S.H., Clovelly, Garth Road, Builth Wells.
Hay Urban:	Mr. Garfield G. Evans, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A., Council Offices, Belle Vue, Hay-on-Wye.
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban:	Mr. J. C. Bowen, M.R.S.H., War Memorial Institute, Llanwrtyd.
Brecon Rural:	Mr. W. J. Rees, M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.H.H., M.S.I.A., Oxford House, The Watton, Brecon.
Builth Rural:	Mr. J. C. Bowen, M.R.S.H., Wye- side, Castle Street, Builth Wells.
Crickhowell Rural:	Mr. R. A. Jackson, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.H., R.D.C. Offices, Crick- howell.
Hay Rural:	Mr. Garfield G. Evans, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A., Belle Vue, Hay-on-Wye.
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural:	Mr. S. P. Harris, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.H. 47a, High Street, Bank Chambers, Merthyr Tydfil.
Ystradgynlais Rural:	Mr. W. Emlyn Jones, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A., Council Offices, Ystrad- gynlais.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Square miles)	...	733
Area (Acres)	...	469,281
Population (1931 Census)	...	57,775
„ (1939 Census)	...	54,357
„ (1951 Census)	...	56,508
„ estimated to Middle of 1958	...	56,000
Rateable Value (1st April, 1957)	...	£503,775
Sum represented by a 1d. rate, 1957/58	...	£1909/1/1

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births	...	796.
Live birth rate per 1,000 population	...	14.21
Stillbirths	...	23.
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	...	28.08
Total Live and Stillbirths	...	819.
Infant deaths	...	17.
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births—		
Total births	...	21.35
Legitimate births	...	20.64
Illegitimate births	...	47.61
Neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births (first four weeks)	...	15.07
Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births	...	2.63%
Maternal deaths (including abortion)	...	Nil
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still- birth	...	Nil

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

Section 21.—Health Centres: Again it has not been possible to make any progress in the provision of Health Centres but the matter is still before the Committee.

Section 22. — Care of Mothers and Young Children: This Section covers the following activities: — (a) Ante-natal clinics, (b) Post-natal clinics, (c) Child welfare clinics, (d) Day nurseries and residential nurseries, (e) Mother and baby homes, (f) Dental treatment given to expectant or nursing mothers, and children under 5 years of age, (g) care of premature infants, (h) Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Maternal Deaths, etc., and replaces the old heading of Maternity and Child Welfare.

Information and figures relating to the various sections are given below:—

Care of Premature Infants, i.e., babies weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth, irrespective of period of gestation:—

Special equipment for the domiciliary nursing of premature infants is held at the offices of the local health authority.

If found necessary to admit such infants to hospitals, the local hospital authority would be approached by the nurse or mid-wife and the greatest possible assistance would be given to arrange accommodation.

During 1958 the number of notifications of premature births in the County, after correction, was as follows—

(1) Premature Live Births.

(a) Total Number of Premature Live Births in the Area	63
(b) Number of Premature Live Births at Home ...	19
* (c) Number of Premature Live Births in Private Nursing Homes ...	0
(d) Number of Premature Live Births in Hospital ...	44

(2) Premature Still Births.

(a) Total Number of Premature Still Births in the Area	5
(b) Number of Premature Still Births at Home ...	1
* (c) Number of Premature Still Births in Private Nursing Homes ...	0
(d) Number of Still Births in Hospitals ...	4

*Including Maternity Homes not in the National Health Service and Mother and Baby Homes where the women are confined in the Home.

During the year all cases of premature births have been followed up, including those delivered in hospitals, which has necessitated the interchange of records between Local Health Authorities. The co-operation of the hospitals has been freely given and the information required is provided by them.

Table VIII appended to this report shows the weight of the infants at birth and the numbers of infants who survived 28 days.

Complicated Maternity Cases.

The investigation of cases for hospital confinements is undertaken by the department. Such cases are brought to the notice of the authority in four ways:—(1) the general practitioner, (2) the Clinic Medical Officer, (3) the midwife, or (4) the patient herself. In each individual case, a report is then obtained on the housing conditions (or other social defects) and consideration is given to the question of whether hospital accommodation is required. Where the request for a hospital confinement is based solely on lack of assistance, this is in some cases overcome by the provision of domestic help, though the extent to which this help can be given depends on the domestic helps available and the accessibility of the home. Having decided that the case requires accommodation in hospital, a request is then made to the most

convenient hospital to book the case for accommodation.

Three hospitals in Breconshire admit maternity cases:—

Brecon War Memorial Hospital	... 2 beds
Crickhowell War Memorial Hospital	... 7 beds
Builth Cottage Hospital	... 3 beds

In addition, accommodation is provided for Breconshire cases at the following hospitals outside the county borders:—

Hereford County Hospital.
 Blaina and District Hospital.
 St. James Hospital, Tredegar.
 Gwaunfarren Maternity Home, Merthyr Tydfil.
 St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil.
 Neath General Hospital.
 Abergavenny Cottage Hospital (occasionally).
 'landrindod County Hospital (occasionally).

In numerous instances it is necessary for a patient to be conveyed 20 miles or more to the nearest hospital where accommodation can be found and possibly the patients from Brecon Town and the surrounding countryside fare worse in this respect because of the added distance to any of the larger hospitals in the above lists.

It will be noted from the following figures that the admissions to hospitals for confinement still continue to increase. Between 1952-56 the percentage of Hospital confinements had risen by 3%. The percentage of births being taken in Hospital was 70.3% for the year under review, and it will be noted that there has again been an increase in the number of deliveries in Hospital.

The figures for the past five years are as follows:—

		Total Births in County.	No. of Births in Hospital.	Percentage of Births in Hospital.
1953	...	880	540	61.3%
1954	...	829	513	61.8%
1955	...	876	570	65.1%
1956	...	843	544	64.5%
1957	...	843	573	67.9%
1958	...	832	585	70.3%

Generally speaking, cases are not selected by the local health authority for admission to hospitals on social grounds. The local health authority selections are primarily made on account of unsuitable housing conditions. Very frequently, however, practitioners succeeded in obtaining accommodation for their patients by arrangements direct with the hospital; this particularly applies in the Builth and Crickhowell areas, though other hospitals have tightened up their procedure for admission and have requested a report by the local Health Authority before consideration can be given to the cases.

During the year the new Maternity Wing was opened at the War Memorial Hospital, Brecon, and 12 cases per month can now be booked for admission. This gives an annual number of bookings of approximately 144 compared with 66 births delivered there during 1958.

The following cases were admitted to hospital at the request of the Health Department on account of bad housing, bad home conditions, or for medical reasons.

Brecon, 47; Neath General, 1; St. Tydfil's (Merthyr Tydfil) 5; Crickhowell, 19; Gwaunfarren Maternity Home, 32; St. James, Tredegar, 5; Hereford County Hospital, 3; Amman Valley 23; Builth Cottage Hospital, 0; Beresford Nursing Home, 1; Aberdare Hospital, 5; Morriston Hospital, 10; Blaina and District, 1; Mount Pleasant Hospital, Swansea, 1.

Child Welfare Centres.

Child Welfare Centres are held throughout the County at the following places and at the times shown:—

Centre and Place of Meeting.	Day and Time of Meeting.
1 Abercrave—Miners' Welfare Hall..	2nd Wednesday in month at 2 p.m.
2 Brecon—Clinic, Watton Offices ..	3rd Friday in month at 2 p.m.
3 Brynmawr—School Clinic ..	1st and 3rd Wednesday in month at 2 p.m.
4 Builth Wells—Park House, Park Road, Builth Wells ..	1st Tuesday in month at 2 p.m.
5 Cefn Coed—School Clinic ..	3rd Monday in month at 2 p.m.
6 Colbren—Church Hall ..	3rd Monday in month at 2 p.m.
7 Crickhowell—Market Hall Clinic..	4th Thursday in month at 1-30 p.m.
8 Cwmtwrch—Miners' Welfare Hall	4th Wednesday in month at 2 p.m.
9 Devynock—Reading Room, Sennybridge ..	3rd Tuesday in month at 2 p.m.
10 Gilwern—Church Hall ..	3rd Thursday in month at 2 p.m.
11 Hay—Wesley Hall, Oxford Road ..	2nd Thursday in month at 10 a.m.
12 Hirwaun—Bethel Church Vestry..	Tuesdays fortnightly.
13 Llanwrtyd Wells—War Memorial Institute ..	1st Friday in month at 2 p.m.
14 Talgarth—Town Hall ..	4th Tuesday in month at 2 p.m.
15 Ystradgynlais—School Clinic ..	1st and 3rd Thursday in month at 2 p.m.
16 Tirabad—Village Hall ..	2nd Friday in month at 2 p.m.
17 Llangamarch Wells — Church Institute ..	3rd Friday in month at 2 p.m.

When necessary, cases are referred to their own doctors or to Hospital for treatment or consultation.

The clinic held fortnightly at the Bethel Church Vestry, Hirwaun, is organised by the Glamorgan County Council, and mothers from the Vaynor and Penderyn district of Breconshire are catered for by arrangement with Glamorgan. Breconshire pays a proportionate cost of this clinic based on the population of the area covered and a Breconshire Health Visitor attends regularly.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Facilities for ante-natal examinations are provided by the local health authority at the following centres where a Medical Officer is in attendance. These clinics are held at the times and places stated:—

1. Abercrave: 2nd Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
2. Brynmawr, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
3. Ystradgynlais, 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
4. Brecon: 3rd Friday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
5. Hirwaun: Bethel Church Vestry, fortnightly, Tuesdays, 9.30 a.m.

During the year it became necessary to close the Defynnog Ante-Natal Clinic owing to the pressure of other commitments upon the Medical Officer's time, and in view of the small number of expectant mothers availing themselves of the service in this area.

These clinics are held in:—One Welfare Hall and one Church Vestry, which are all hired premises, and three permanent clinic premises which are owned by the Education Authority and/or the Local Health Authority.

The clinic at Hirwaun is now conducted fortnightly by the Glamorgan County Council and persons from the Hirwaun and Penderyn portion of Breconshire attend under a joint arrangement between the two authorities.

As a result of discussions between the Local Health Authority and the Local Medical Committee, reports are sent to the General Practitioners in respect of their patients in attendance at the Ante-Natal Clinics.

Post-Natal Clinics.

There are no specially held post-natal clinics—all patients attend the ante-natal sessions.

Specialist Clinics.

There are no specialist clinics held under the auspices of the local health authority.

Assistance given at Clinics in General Practitioners' own Premises.

Assistance at one General Medical Practitioner's Surgery is now given by a midwife in the Sennybridge area. This arrangement was reached after the closure of the Council's Ante-Natal Clinic in Sennybridge (Defynnog).

Blood Testing.

Arrangements are made for collecting blood specimens at the clinics and these are sent to the National Blood Transfusion Laboratory at Cardiff.

The findings are in all cases reported to the patients' General Medical Practitioners.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants, and Homeless Children in the District—

Arrangements are made with the Swansea and Brecon Moral Welfare Association to carry out this work in return for grant paid, the Health Authority being responsible for the maintenance of the mother for approximately one month before the confinement and for a period of 14 days after birth. Maintenance after this date becomes the responsibility of the Welfare Committee. A grant of £100 p.a. is also given to the Association.

During the year arrangements were made for the accommodation of four mothers at Cwmdonkin Shelter, Swansea, one at St. Martin's, Hereford, one at Northlands, Cardiff, and one at the Penarth Hostel.

Mothercraft Training.

No special clinics are held for this purpose since all advice is given by the health visitors in the course of their rounds.

Maternity Outfits.

Maternity outfits are distributed free of charge to expectant mothers by the midwives who are booked for the cases. The outfit provided is a standard sterilised pack, supplied by a manufacturer of surgical dressings.

Necessary items required for the lying in, which are not included in the maternity outfit, are provided by the midwife attending the case.

Day Nurseries, Hospitals for Children, and Mother and Baby Homes.

There are none in the County. The Education Committee has one Nursery School at **Brynmawr**.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Number of cases in 1958 in which

(a) vision was unimpaired	... Nil
(b) vision impaired	... Nil
(c) vision lost	... Nil
(d) patient died	... Nil
(e) patient still under treatment at end of year	... Nil
(f) patient removed from district	... Nil
(g) classification under above heads cannot be made	... Nil

Maternal Deaths.

There were no deaths of mothers during the year.

Supply of Dried Milk.

The Supply of proprietary brands of dried milk is not undertaken at the clinics. The demand for the various brands is so

small that stocks would deteriorate before being used. In parts of the County there is a system of chits being used which enable Cow and Gate or Ostermilk to be purchased from the local chemists at a slightly cheaper rate. This scheme is dependent on the readiness of the local chemists to honour these vouchers or even to stock the brand of milk. Many chemists consider that the demand is so small that they do not feel it justifies them taking part in any such scheme. The majority of children in the county are fed on National Dried Milk.

The local health authority has arranged for the supply of Scots Twin Pack cereal at clinics. This is sold at a cheap rate.

The sale of proprietary foods at clinics has never been successful in this County and sale of twin packs, which was undertaken as an experiment, has proved no exception, and steps were taken during the year to discontinue the scheme.

Distribution of Welfare Foods.

Formal approval was given by the Welsh Board of Health to the Council's Scheme for the distribution of Welfare Foods on the 8th November, 1954, and the scheme continues to function with 7 main Distribution Centres and 29 voluntary distributors from shops and private dwellings.

The main centres are manned by an officer engaged for this purpose and from the following times of distribution it will be seen that his time is fully taken up by these centres, and leaves little opportunity for other work. These main Centres are as follows and open on the days and times stated.

<u>District.</u>	<u>Address of Centre.</u>	<u>Day.</u>	<u>Times.</u>
Builth Wells	.. The Clinic, Park Road, Builth Wells	Monday	10 a.m. 1.30 p.m.
Llanwrtyd Wells	.. Memorial Institute, Llanwrtyd Wells	Monday	2.30 p.m. 4 p.m.
Brynmawr	.. The Clinic, Bailey Street, Brynmawr	Tuesday	10 a.m. 1 p.m. 2 p.m. 4 p.m.
Ystradgynlais	.. The Clinic, Derwen Road, Ystradgynlais	Wednesday	10 a.m. 1 p.m. 2 p.m. 4 p.m.
Hay-on-Wye	.. Belle Vue, Hay-on-Wye	Thursday	10 a.m. 12.30 p.m.
Crickhowell	.. The Clinic, Market Hall, Crickhowell	Thursday	2 p.m. 4 p.m.

Mr. E. R. Morgan, Pentwyn, Gilwern, continues to give his services free and delivers Welfare Foods to these voluntary distributors from the main centre at Crickhowell. Much useful work is done by Mr. Morgan in assisting the small shopkeepers to check stores and complete their returns. For this service Mr. Morgan is merely re-imbursed for mileage covered in his car.

The thanks of the department are again offered to all volunteers who have helped during the year in making the scheme run smoothly.

The amount of Welfare Foods distributed is not large but the nature of the County makes it necessary that some centres issuing small amounts must remain open to provide the necessary service.

The following items were issued during 1958:—

National Dried Milk	... 28,455
Orange Juice	... 22,351
Cod Liver Oil	... 3,396
Vitamin Tablets 'A and 'D'...	1,835

It will be noted that a considerable decrease in the sales of National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, and Cod Liver Oil has occurred during the year, which in the case of National Dried Milk alone amounts to a decrease of 15.7% on the previous year. The decrease of sales for Orange Juice and Cod Liver Oil was 36.27% and 29.89% respectively.

Dental Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Treatment is provided for expectant and nursing mothers and children under five years of age by the School Dental Officers at the following clinics:—Brecon, Brynmawr, Cefn Coed, Crickhowell and Ystradgynlais.

Treatment has also been given in the Village Hall at Llan-dulas under difficult conditions using portable equipment and in a few exceptional cases where absence of public transport has made it difficult for the mother to attend a clinic treatment has been carried out in the home.

The new clinic at Builth was equipped at the end of the year and this will provide another centre at which treatment will be available.

The numbers of mothers and young children examined and treated again show an increase over those for the previous year. The figures for all types of treatment are considerably greater than those for 1957. The demand is such that more than one eleventh of the School Dental Officers' time has had to be devoted to this work. It is difficult to make an accurate assessment of the number of sessions held, as much of the treatment has of necessity been carried out concurrently with that of school children. It is probable that the true figure is nearer one tenth than one eleventh of the School Dental Officers' time.

One-eleventh of the School Dental Officers' time is allotted to this work.

Detailed figures of patients examined and treatment given are shown in Table VII.

Section 23—Midwifery Service—

Under the provisions of Section 23 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the local health authority has fulfilled its

obligations by covering its area with a sufficient number of qualified midwives to meet the needs thereof. To this end the Authority had in its employ on the 31st December, 1958, 1 whole-time and 25 part-time midwives, giving an equivalent whole-time staff of 8.66 midwives available to attend upon women being confined in their own homes. In addition to these there were 3 private midwives and 24 hospital midwives practising in the County during 1958, the total number practising midwives during the year being 53.

One Superintendent Nursing Officer is employed who is also the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives. Periodic inspections are made to the midwives employed by the local health authority, and visits made to midwives not employed by the local health authority.

Tables dealing with midwifery, notification of births, etc., are given below:—

Supervision of Midwives—

Fifty-five Midwives notified their intention to practice in the County, viz., 52 resident and 3 border midwives.

Of the above—

24 were resident in Institutions.

3 were in independent practice.

28 were employed by the County Council: County, 26;
Border, 2.

Ante-Natal Supervision by Midwives—

Domiciliary midwives undertake ante-natal supervision of their patients. This supervision is backed by a comprehensive service provided by the general practitioners, the local health authority at their ante-natal clinics, and the Hospital Service.

The domiciliary midwives work in close co-operation with the local general practitioners undertaking maternity medical services. They attend with these patients whenever required to do so, at the doctors' surgeries. Doctors are notified of births by the Public Health Department within a week of the notification of birth being received. This has been arranged at the instigation of the Local Medical Committee.

Notification from Midwives during 1957—

135 Forms of sending for Medical Aid were received:—115 for mothers and 20 for children.

An analysis of the causes for summoning medical aid is given overleaf:—

FOR THE MOTHER—

Secondary shock	...	1
Toxaemia	...	5
Albuminuria	...	5
Miscarriage, Abortion, actual or threatened	...	2
Puerperial Pyrexia	...	1
Haemorrhage ante and post partum	...	11
Prolonged, obstructed and labour inertia	...	20
Malpresentation or Malposition	...	4
Retained or adherent placenta or membranes...	...	3
Puptured perineuw	...	43
Unsatisfactory condition of mother	...	6
Premature Labour	...	1
Breech	...	3
Twin Labour	...	1
Bathcolin Abscess	...	1
Foetal Distress	...	2
B.B.A.	...	1
Early rupture of membranes	...	5

FOR THE CHILD—

Premature or feebleness	...	5
Unsatisfactory conditions	...	5
Eye Infections	...	6
Talipes	...	1
Blue Asphyxia	...	2
White Asphyxia	...	1

In some cases, one Medical Aid Form was used for several different causes.

Fees of Doctors called in under Midwives Act, 1918—Section 14 and N.H.S. (Amendment) Act, 1949, Section 29(2).

No. of cases in which General Practitioners	}	1
claimed payment in respect of Medical Aid Forms		
Total amount of Claims paid	...	£2 12s. 6d.

Breaches of Central Midwives Board Rules.

No breaches of the rules occurred in the year.

Administration of Analgesics.

25 Midwives employed by the local health authority are qualified to administer gas and air analgesia to patients under their care. The authority has supplied apparatus to all these midwives. Only one midwife employed by the local health authority is not qualified to administer gas and air analgesia—she is considered unsuitable for training on account of age, and will shortly be retiring.

1. Number of midwives in practice in the area, including private and hospital nurses qualified to administer analgesics, in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Boards:—

(a) Domiciliary	...	25
(b) In Institutions	...	11

Total ... 36

2. Number of cases in which analgesics were administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year—

(a) Gas and Air	...	124
(b) Trilene	...	4

3. Number of midwives trained in the year ... —
4. Total number of sets of Minnitts Gas and Air Apparatus supplied by the Council ... 25
5. Number of cases in which Pethedine was administered by Midwives in Domiciliary practice during the year ... 22

Refresher Courses for Midwives.

There are no facilities for holding refresher courses for midwives within the County.

During the year under review 7 midwives attended approved refresher courses at Leeds, Manchester, Stoke-on-Trent, Cardiff and Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

As anticipated and forecast in my Annual Report for 1957 we were unable to send all midwives on the prescribed refresher course by the end of 1958, and an all out effort is being made to increase the numbers to be sent in 1959. There is now every indication that we will be able to comply with the Regulation under the Midwives Rules Approval Instrument No. 1955.

Training of Pupil Midwives.

No facilities exist for the actual training of pupil midwives within the County.

Notification of Births.

The following notifications of births were received during the year:—Live Birth, 565, Still Births 10, making a total of 575.

These births were attended by:—

District Nurse Midwives: County	244; Border	1...	245
Private Midwives: County	2	...	2
Hospital and Institutional Midwives		...	328

Number of Births notified in the Authority's Area during 1958 under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as adjusted by any transferred notifications:—

- (a) Live Births, 853; (b) Still Births, 21; (c) Total, 832.

Section 24—Health Visiting.

The health visiting staff consists of 1 Superintendent Nursing Officer and 18 part-time health visitors, who also act as school nurses and/or district nurses; 8 of these nurses perform duties of Health Visitors under dispensation by the Minister of Health.

The Health Visitors visit monthly children under one year of age and thereafter at three-monthly intervals those between one and five years, although the two-year-olds are visited more frequently. Health visitors were also called upon to investigate cases requiring domestic help to ease the strain of this work on the Domestic Help Supervisor, who is also the County Superintendent Nursing Officer.

In addition to health visiting of expectant and nursing mothers of young children, the health visiting staff works in close co-operation with the hospitals. When notices of discharges are received from the hospitals these are forwarded to the appropriate health visitor for the area giving the diagnosis, treatment and recommendation as to further treatment. In some instances the health visitor, being also the district nurse, undertakes any practical nursing required.

The Council has in the past offered scholarships of £250 to suitable candidates who are prepared to train for the Health Visitors Certificate. This grant has now been replaced by an allowance of 75% of the minimum salary payable to Health Visitors for the duration of the course plus the usual allowances made by the Breconshire County Council in respect of uniform and laundry as well as reasonable travelling expenses, tuition and examination fees incurred in pursuing the training course approved by the County Council. Training is generally undertaken as a combined training under the auspices of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing or at some other recognised course.

No Grants were made to nurses during the year,

There are no facilities for the training of student health visitors within the County.

Particulars of the number of visits paid to mothers and babies are to be found in Table VI appended.

Refresher Courses for Health Visitors.

Two whole-time Health Visitors attended a refresher course during the year which was held at Bedford College, London.

Section 25—Home Nursing.

A wholetime nursing service is provided by the local health authority. The staff consists of 3 whole-time and 25 part-time nurses, giving an equivalent of 14.5 full-time nurses. The nurses in the various districts co-operate to the fullest extent and work in conjunction with the general practitioners. The supervision of the nursing in the home is exercised by the Superintendent Nursing Officer. Liaison with the hospital and domiciliary nursing

service does not generally exist in a direct nature. In the small hospitals within the County the doctors at the hospitals are normally the general practitioners who are already in close contact with the district nurses. In the case of the large base hospitals situated outside the county, the patient's doctor is aware of the requirements of discharged cases and he requests what attention is necessary. Also, as in the case of health visitors, hospitals contact the department when they require domiciliary nursing of any case being discharged.

Figures of cases of home visits paid and cases attended are given below:—

1. Number of visits paid by Home Nurses ... 47,934
2. Number of cases attended by Home Nurses ... 1,799

Classification and Proposition of Main Types of Cases attended by Home Nurses.

During the year, 1,799 patients were nursed in the homes and 47,934 visits were made.

These cases were classified as follows:—

	Patients.	Visits.
Medical	... 1,334	39,412
Surgical	... 377	5,214
Infectious Diseases	... 7	39
Tuberculosis	... 20	894
Maternal Complications	... 13	72
Others	... 48	2,303

Further analysis of the above figures shows that 747 patients were over 65 years of age, and 220 were under 5 years, and that 26,024 and 1,384 visits were made respectively to these patients.

Of the patients visited, 417 received more than 24 visits during the year and 29,168 visits were actually made to these older patients.

The average number of visits per case for all patients works out at 25.09 visits each.

The lack of recruitment of suitably qualified general nurses, midwives and health visitors to the country areas presents an increasing problem.

Some members of the nursing staff have passed retiring age, but are continuing to give conscientious service to the community among whom they have lived and worked for many years.

Section 26—Vaccination and Immunisation.

Under the provision of Section 26 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, arrangements are made for vaccination to be carried out by general practitioners and for immunisation against diphtheria by the general practitioners and at clinics by the local health authority's Medical Officers.

Health Visitors in their visits to the homes encourage the parents to avail themselves of the opportunity of having the children vaccinated.

Health Visitors also encourage the mothers to bring their children to the clinics for immunisation against diphtheria or take them to the general practitioner. Furthermore, the parent of each child is sent an additional notice at about the child's fourth month urging the mother to take advantage of the facilities available. Boosting injections of diphtheria prophylactic are given at five years and again at ten years. These last two boosting injections are usually given at schools or school clinics.

(a) Vaccination—

Vaccination can be carried out by the family doctors at their surgeries at the request of the parents, and practitioners who have expressed a wish to undertake this work are supplied with lymph free of charge on request to the appropriate Public Health Laboratory, and record cards are supplied from the Health Department on which to enter the necessary particulars, these cards being returned to the County Medical Officer for statistical purposes and for payment to the General Practitioner.

Vaccination is free of charge to the patient.

Figures of persons vaccinated each year from 1948 to 1958 are given below:—

Year.	Primary Vaccination.	Re-Vaccination.
1948	89	17
1949	112	16
1950	141	25
1951	215	69
1952	170	36
1953	191	30
1954	252	44
1955	160	40
1956	270	64
1957	252	40
1958	250	78

Figures of Persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in 1958:

Age at date of Vaccination	Under 1	1	2—4	5—14	15 or over	Total
Number Vaccinated ...	106	92	15	14	23	250
Number Re-Vaccinated	2	1	12	13	50	78

(b) Diphtheria Immunisation—

Diphtheria Immunisation work is being carried out quite satisfactorily at the various Infant Welfare Centres, on school premises and clinics, and from the figures obtainable to the end of the year, there is no doubt that the scheme is working most efficiently. In addition, children are immunised by private practitioners at their surgeries, and record cards are provided by the Health Department. Completed records are returned for statistical purposes.

Number of children immunised during the year 1958 by Officers of the Council and by General Practitioners:

District	Primary Immunisation		Totals	Re-inforcing Dose
	Under 5	5—14		
Brecon Urban	101	11	112	64
Brynmawr Urban	55	4	59	6
Builth Urban	23	1	24	...
Hay Urban	18	6	24	13
Llanwrtyd Urban	7	5	12	8
Brecon Rural	95	13	108	57
Builth Rural	41	3	44	7
Crickhowell Rural	69	24	93	58
Hay Rural	34	4	38	37
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural	35	...	35	...
Ystradgynlais Rural	121	6	127	47
Totals, 1958	599	77	676	297
Totals, 1957	561	99	660	778

On the 31st December, 1958, there were 7,696 children in the County who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date. The number of children thus protected represents 61.6 per cent. of the estimated child population.

The following table shows the children in age groups who were immunised at the 31st December, 1958:

Age @ 31-12-58, i.e., born in years	Under 1 1958	1—4 1954—1957	5—9 1949—1953	10—14 1944—1948	Total
Number Immunised	95	1969	2931	2701	7696

Immunisation against Whooping Cough.

The Council's Scheme for Vaccination and Immunisation, Section 26, has been extended to include the inoculation of children against whooping cough.

Proposals were submitted by the Health Committee to the Ministry of Health on the 13th May, 1954, and on the 19th July, 1955, approval was granted by the Ministry to the amendment of the Council's original scheme by the substitution of the following.

- (a) Arrangements will be made for the inoculation of children against whooping cough at infant welfare centres or other suitable centres as will make these facilities as readily accessible as possible to all who wish to use them and will ensure that arrangements are made with sufficient frequency and at such hours as will meet local requirements.
- (b) The Council will give an opportunity to every practitioner providing general medical services in the area to undertake vaccination against whooping cough in his own surgery or at the home of the patient. Medical practitioners taking part in the Council's arrangements will be required to furnish particulars for record purposes in such standard form as may be recommended by the Ministry and the Council will keep records in a manner that will enable them to furnish such returns to the Ministry as may be required. Fees will be paid to the practitioners on the basis of the receipt of records as agreed with the profession.
- (c) The County Medical Officer will be responsible for deciding the antigen(s) to be used and made available to practitioners.

Antigen is supplied to General Practitioners for the combined inoculation against Diphtheria-Pertussis, or a Whooping Cough vaccine itself.

(c) Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

The Vaccination and Immunisation Scheme under Section 26 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, was extended to include vaccination against Poliomyelitis in accordance with Circular 2/56 from the Welsh Board of Health.

The Minister's formal approval was granted on the 23rd March, 1956 (L.S. 3/222/1) to the extension of the Council's existing proposals by the addition of the following paragraph:—

“The Council proposes also to make arrangements for offering to persons in its area or any groups of such persons, vaccination or immunisation against any other disease in respect of which authority is sought from or given by the Minister of Health. The Medical Officer will be responsible for keeping records directed towards assessing the value of any such form of vaccination or immunisation.”

Vaccination then consisted of offering to each child two injections of vaccine each of 1 c.c., the interval between these injections being not less than three weeks. Vaccination commenced on the 1st May, 1956, on those children in the age groups selected by the Ministry and has since been extended.

Circular 22/56, dated 12th December, 1956, from the Welsh Board of Health proposed that General Medical Practitioners were to be given an opportunity to take part in the scheme from January, 1957.

The record cards of registered children, for whom the General Medical Practitioners have agreed to vaccinate, were sent to them and the vaccine was allotted in the proportion of the number of children to be done by the Authority's Medical Officers and the Medical Practitioners. The scheme has worked well and the General Medical Practitioners have co-operated in the matter of the distribution of vaccine.

As a result of Circular 6/57, dated 14th May, 1957, from the Welsh Board of Health, the vaccination of children continued throughout the Summer months and further groups of children were registered, consents being received in respect of 3380

Again on the 19th November, 1957, Circular 16/57, proposed that the scheme should be extended to include children up to the age of 15 years and also expectant and nursing mothers, following increased supplies of British Vaccine, which was also being augmented by Salk Vaccine being imported.

From this date the Ministry no longer directed which group should receive priority other than to direct that those already registered in the first Registration of Children born in 1947-1954 should firstly be completed and that expectant mothers would at all times remain a priority group.

At the end of 1957 the registers were re-opened and parents of any children over six months and under 15 years of age were requested to register their children for vaccination by consenting for this to be done. They were also at this stage given the opportunity of having the child vaccinated by the Medical Practitioner or by the County Council's Medical Officer, with either British or Salk Vaccine.

During September, 1958, Circular 20/58 from the Welsh Board of Health again extended the scheme to embrace young persons between the ages of 15 and 25 years. All individuals born since 1st January, 1953, are now eligible for vaccination. Following the receipt of this circular, consideration was given to the proposals for extending the scheme by the Health Committee and at the end of the year arrangements had been fixed for "open evening sessions" to be held at various centres throughout the County for the convenience of young adults. The scheme allowed for payment on a sessional basis to be made to General Practitioners. Although the scheme did not operate

until 1959, it might, as a matter of interest, be mentioned here that the arrangements have worked very well indeed. Thanks of the department are due to the General Medical Practitioners who have made this scheme possible and to both the Nursing and Clerical Staffs who have given their wholehearted support.

The work of immunisation against Poliomyelitis has progressed well in this County though it has, of course, functioned at the expense of the Routine School Medical Inspections.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination—

The following information as at the end of 1958 will give some indication of the position:—

	By Council's Medical Officers.	By G.P.s.	Totals.
Number of persons who had been given 2 injections up to the end of 1958 ...	7030	2286	9316
Number of persons who had been given 3 injections up to the end of 1958 ...	1611	619	2230

Section 27—Ambulance Service.

The Ambulance Services in the County are undertaken by the St. John's Welsh Home Ambulance Service Association who act as sole agents for the County.

Eight ambulances are used in the service—four provided directly by the Authority and four provided by St. John. All are, however, under the direct control of St. John's for operational purposes. The day to day administration is the responsibility of the County Medical Officer on behalf of the Local Health Authority. The ambulance arrangements remain as follow:—St. John Ambulance Stations are established at Brecon, Builth, Crickhowell, Hay, Brynmawr and Ystradgynlais.

1. Brecon Ambulances.—Two ambulances cover Brecon Borough and the whole of Brecon Rural District.
2. Builth Ambulance covers Builth Urban, Llanwrtyd Urban, and Builth Rural District, with the exception of the parish of Llanwrthwl at the very north of the County. This ambulance will also, by arrangement with Radnorshire, in emergency cases only, continue to cover as heretofore a small area of the County adjoining Builth Urban, viz., the parishes of Llanelwedd, Llansantffraed-in-Elvel, Aberedw, Disserseth, Rhulen, Llanbadarn-y-garreg, Llanfaredd and Cregrina, Glas-cwm and Colva. Radnorshire, on their part will cover for us the three Breconshire parishes of Llydsinam, Llanfihangel Brynpabuan, and Llanwrthwl in the north of the County by their ambulance from Llandrindod Wells.

3. Hay Ambulance covers Hay Urban and Hay Rural Districts, together with the Radnorshire District of Painscastle Rural and parishes of Newchurch and Michaelchurch-on-Arrow.
4. Crickhowell Ambulance covers the whole of the Crickhowell Rural District, other than Clydach and Darenfelen Areas
5. Brynmawr Ambulance.—This ambulance covers Brynmawr, Clydach, and Darenfelen.
6. Ystradgynlais Ambulances.—Two ambulances owned by the local health authority in this area operate within the framework of the County Ambulance Service, are controlled by St. John's and are subject to the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health.

The Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee acts as sole agent of the Authority for the above areas of the County and operates the Brecon, Builth, Hay, Crickhowell, Brynmawr, and Ystradgynlais ambulances on terms mutually agreed and as may be approved by the Minister of Health from time to time. The Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee is responsible for the operation and maintenance of an efficient ambulance service in these areas.

Apart from what has been mentioned above, in connection with Radnorshire, there are two areas of the County, both situated on the southern border, for which arrangements have been made for them to be covered by outside authorities as follow:—

- (a) Vaynor and Penderyn Rural District, including the Brecon Rural appendage of Hepste. Glamorgan has undertaken to cover this area in their scheme by their ambulances stationed at Seven Sisters, Glynneath and Aberdare.
- (b) The Village of Cefn Coed and the adjoining Parish of Vaynor (Pontsticill). The Borough of Merthyr Tydfil has undertaken to include this area in their ambulance scheme.

Since a considerable number of people live in the rural part of the Penderyn parish situated on the eastern border of this parish where it adjoins the parish of Vaynor but live within easy access of the main Brecon-Merthyr road, arrangements have been made that these people should be covered for ambulance purposes by the Merthyr Borough, even though they actually live within part of the area for which Glamorgan has undertaken responsibility since it is much more easy to obtain ambulance transport from Merthyr and the Merthyr General Hospital is the one to which they always go when in need.

The arrangements with the Border Counties have worked satisfactorily and the various difficulties which periodically arise are always smoothed out without any trouble. I think it can be reported again that the scheme is working very well.

A County Ambulance Transport Committee meets regularly, and includes representatives of the County Council, the Ystrad-

gynlais District Ambulance Association, the Regional Hospital Board, and co-opted representatives of other interested bodies, together with the Welsh Home Service Ambulance Association, who operate the service.

The ambulances are mainly situated at garages under contract agreements between St. John and the proprietors, with the exception of the Ystradgynlais ambulances which are housed in a County Council garage at which three whole-time drivers are employed by St. John. It must be pointed out that in the Ystradgynlais area the ambulances also undertake the conveyance of all sitting case patients as well as those requiring ambulance transport.

Ambulance Station Telephone Numbers.—Table IX appended to this report gives the telephone Numbers of Ambulance Stations serving the County. These numbers are not necessarily the same as those exhibited in Telephone Exchanges to which all emergency calls are directed. For instance, the emergency calls for Brynmawr are relayed to Caerleon 283. A local arrangement exists whereby calls directed to Monmouthshire are immediately referred to the Brynmawr station or, if need be, the calls are answered by Monmouthshire.

Sitting Car Service.

This service is running quite efficiently and works as follows:—

Each medical practitioner, midwife, hospital matron, etc., is supplied with voucher books authorising journeys to be made by private car at the expense of the local health authority in all cases whereby reason of physical or mental defect the patient is unable to travel by public conveyance, and the starting point is situated within the County. The charges permitted are agreed by the local health authority, who advertise for tenders from car proprietors who are willing to undertake the conveyance of patients. For this purpose the County is divided into 13 areas which are covered by 10 contractors. The following table shews the contractors and the parishes covered since 1/4/58. The contract for conveyance of sitting patients was formerly for only one year, but this has now been extended by the Committee for a period of three years. The present contracts will thus remain in operation until 31st March, 1962. At Ystradgynlais, sitting patients are conveyed by the ambulances since whole-time personnel are employed. Cefn Coed and Penderyn, although not covered by an official contractor, present no difficulties, much of the work being done by the bordering authority on our behalf, and a few isolated cases are conveyed by local garage proprietors.

Area No.	Contractor.	Districts.
1.	T. J. Brown & Sons... 1, George St., Brynmawr.	Brynmawr, Darenfelen, and Clydach.
2.	W. F. Price, Herbert Villa, New Road, Crickhowell	.... Llangynidr, Bwlch and Cwmdr.
3.	W. F. Price, Herbert Villa, New Road, Crickhowell.	.. Crickhowell, G i l w e r n, Grwynefawr, Grwynefechan, Llanbedr, Llangattock, Llangenny, Partrishow.
4.	Brecon Motors Ltd.,... Watton, Brecon.	Borough of Brecon, Parishes of Merthyr Cynog, Llanddew, Llandefaelogfach, Battle, Aberyscir, Vennyfach, Llanspyddid, St. David's Without, Glyn, Modrydd, Can- tref, Llanfrynach, Llanhamlach, Llanwern, Llansantfraed, Llanfihangel Talyllyn, Llan- gasty Talyllyn, Cathedine, Llangorse, Llanfillo, and Llanfigan (excepting Tor- pantau) and Llandetty (excepting Pons- ticill and Dolygaer).
5	E. Haydn Williams, .. Haulfryn, Sennybridge.	Parishes of Llandeilorfan, Llanfihangel Nantbran, Trallong, Ysclydach, Traian- mawr, Traiangelas, Cray, Senny, Maescar, and Penpont.
6 and 7.	No Contractors	Vaynor, Penderyn and Ystradfellte.
8	W. R. Powell, The Garage, Llanwrtyd.	.. Urban District of Llanwrtyd, and Parishes of Llanwrtyd Without, Llandulas, Pen- bualt, Gwarafog, Llanafanfychan, Llan- lleonfel, Llanafanfawr, Llanfihangel Abergwessin, Llandewi Abergwessin, Treffis.
9.	Weale Bros., Hay Road Garage, Builth Wells.	.. Urban District of Builth and Parishes of Rhosferig, Llanganten, Llanynis, Maes- mynis, Llangynog, Llandewi'r Cwm and Alltmawr.
10.	Lewis Bros., The Garage, Builth Wells.	.. Llanwrthwl, Llysdinam (Breconshire) and Llanfihangel Brynpabuan.
11.	H. V. Webb & Sons, . Lion Garage, Hay-on-Wye.	Urban District of Hay, and Parishes of Hay Rural, Llanigon, and Tregoyd and Velindre.
12.	A. H. P. Davies, New Inn, Talgarth.	.. Talgarth, Llanellieu, Llandefalle (Southern half), Bronllys Aberllynfi and Pipton.
13.	H. T. Price Ltd., Builth Motor Garage, Builth Wells.	.. Llyswen, Gwenddwr, Crickadarn, Llande- falle (Northern half).

No tenders were received in respect of Districts No. 6 and 7—Vaynor, Penderyn, and Ystradfellte — but the Sub-Committee understand that the firm providing the cars for this service are prepared to continue on terms which differ very little from the foregoing contracts.

The Sub-Committee would point out that no tenders were invited and, therefore, no contracts entered into in respect of the Ystradgynlais District, in view of the fact that this district is at present adequately covered by the County Council's ambulances operating in that district.

The Ambulance Service in Breconshire has no 24-hour central control but on the whole the service operates very smoothly indeed, in spite of this. Much consideration has been given to the question of central control and the question has also been subjected to considerable investigation by the officers of the Welsh Board of Health and the Ministry of Health, with the conclusion that a compromise has been arranged whereby a 24-hour service is guaranteed by the garages, and the County Health Department can act as central control during office hours. Calls for sitting cars during the day are normally made from hospitals outside the County to the County Health Department or to one of the ambulance stations. Requests from doctors within the County are made direct to the various contractors.

The limit of 40 miles, over which it is necessary to obtain prior approval from the County Medical Officer, continues to be imposed under the new contracts and has enabled the local health authority to combine a considerable number of journeys thereby reducing the cost accordingly.

Doctors and hospitals are from time to time reminded of economy and letters have been repeatedly written to hospitals requesting them to change times of appointments in order to fit in more than one patient in a car proceeding to the hospital.

The inconvenience and remote situation of many dwellings must have a direct bearing on the demand for transport under this scheme and although general practitioners are being constantly informed of this, it is inevitable that it must tend to increase the demand.

There does not appear to be any deliberate abuse of the scheme, which the local health authority supervises very carefully for any irregularities. Apart from the above, there were no difficulties encountered.

Figures of the ambulance and sitting-car services during 1958 are given below:—

Ambulance Service.

Ambulance Station	Number of Journ'ys	Patients Carried		Total Patients Carried	Total Miles Tr'v'll'd	Accident Cases
		Str'tchr	Sitting			
Brecon ...	295	320	37	357	11079	65
Brynmawr ...	211	245	29	274	3535	53
Builth ...	204	223	21	244	8991	10
Crickhowell ...	192	221	6	227	6313	27
Hay ...	122	117	18	135	6385	25
Ystrad'lais ...	1263	633	6311	6944	54256	91
Totals ...	2287	1759	6422	8181	90559	271
1957 ...	2304	1746	5657	7403	92314	232
1956 ...	2304	1950	4961	6911	90708	201
1955 ...	2311	1890	4300	6190	90539	189
1954 ...	2418	2368	4321	6689	96848	215
1953 ...	1990	1813	2868	4681	79568	151
1952 ...	1775	1518	2582	4100	72231	161
1951 ...	1697	1331	2403	3734	72684	129
1950 ...	1395	—	—	2913	67874	129
949 ...	1216	—	—	2475	52668	90

Sitting Car Service—1958.

Month.	Journeys.	Patients.	Mileage.
January ..	494	1115	14246
February ..	429	972	12662
March ..	464	1068	12005
April ..	477	1061	14681
May ..	496	1148	15292
June ..	497	1148	16486
July ..	512	1156	16388
August ..	439	981	13970
September ..	424	1013	13391
October ..	492	1110	14226
November ..	445	932	12512
December ..	430	981	12826
Total ..	5599	12685	168595

Year.	Journeys.	Patients.	Mileage.
1957	5496	12167	159376
1956	5843	12462	162583
1955	5595	11528	168473
1954	5075	10740	148295
1953	4610	9786	132060
1952	4223	8693	119638
1951	3577	5804	107172
1950	2690	2736	84205
1949	2064	2129	63045

Since the transfer of ambulance services from voluntary bodies to the County Council in July, 1948, very few changes have taken place. St. John Ambulance Association undertook the operational control of the service and apart from one ambulance station the service is run by Garage Arrangement. In the case of Ystradgynlais, however, there was a whole-time staff which on the appointed day, viz., 5th July, 1948, was absorbed into the staff of the County Council. Owing to operation difficulties it was later decided to transfer these whole-time drivers to the St. John Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee. This is the only major change which has occurred.

In 1949, the first full year of operation of this service, 1,216 journeys were undertaken by ambulances and 2,475 patients were conveyed with an overall mileage of 52,668. The figures of journeys, patients carried and mileages, it will be noted, progressively increased each year until we reached the peak in 1954 when journeys and mileages were doubled and the patients conveyed were nearly trebled. Since 1954 the figures have remained fairly constant.

Similarly the sitting case cars have been used to an increased amount, the number of patients conveyed in 1957 being sixfold greater for the year 1949.

It will be realised that during the 10 years of operation the demand on the services, increasing as they have, must have inevitably thrown a considerable burden on the Clerical Staff of the Public Health Department who act in the capacity of County Control during office hours. This work has been undertaken without any additional assistance.

Section 28.—Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

Under this heading comes the after-care of patients suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defectiveness, all types of illnesses, the provision of equipment and apparatus (medical comforts) required for nursing the patients in the homes, and accommodation in recuperation homes. The local health authority, as was the case previously, is responsible for the provision of extra nourishment and clothes for the patient and his family, except in the case of patients who are in receipt of National Assistance, when these items would be the responsibility of the National Assistance Board. Provision of out-door shelters, special beds and bedding, and other nursing requisites, etc., is

the concern of the local health authority, and applicants for any of these services are dealt with after furnishing particulars of all members of the family income, etc. When assistance is given, it is either free of charge or on whole or part payment by the patient. The amount of payment to be made by the patient is assessed on an income scale adopted by the local health authority and approved by the Ministry of Health.

Such items as wheel-chairs and crutches are provided by the County Council if the need is a temporary one, but if the necessity is likely to be permanent, then the responsibility for the provision of the articles rests with the Regional Hospital Board, such items being supplied through the Ministry of Pensions. Any applications of this nature are forwarded by this Department to the appropriate Hospital Management Committee requesting them to deal with the case.

Nursing requisites of a minor nature are provided free in all cases.

(1) **Tuberculosis** — The treatment of Tuberculosis in the County is carried on by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board (Tuberculosis Division). Table V (appended) shows the number of cases notified on Form "A" during the year.

Where necessary, the local health authority will provide tuberculosis patients with shelters on loan, and extra nourishment can be provided by the local health authority for them. The health visitors visit households in which there are tuberculosis patients and offer advice as to contacts and preventive measures which should be taken by them. Cases of bad housing conditions are referred to the local housing authorities.

The local health authority, with the Regional Hospital Board, arrange for the joint appointment of medical officers who are employed in connection with the local health authority's services in relation to the prevention of illness, care and after-care of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The Domestic Help Scheme under Section 29 also plays its part in the prevention of illness, care and after-care of these cases.

The Time Tables of the Tuberculosis Chest Physicians are as follows:—

Name and Address of Chest Clinic.	Dates of Attendance.	Times.
1. Dr. D. Ivor Williams, 2 Bulwark, Brecon—Telephone 54.		
Brecon	Tuesdays	.. 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon— Clinic. 11 a.m.—Consultations (Brecon Hospital). 2 p.m. Contacts Domiciliary Visits
	Fridays	.. 10 a.m.—New and old patients. 2 p.m.—Contacts.
Builth Hospital Builth Wells	.. Mondays	.. 10.30 a.m.—Clinic and Consultation.
The Hospital Llandrindod	.. Mondays	.. 2 p.m. — Clinic and Consultation A.P. Refills.
Ystradgynlais— at Adelina Patti Hospital	.. Thursdays	.. 2 p.m.—Clinic
2. Dr. A. E. Aslett, "Hawthorns," Courtland Terrace, Merthyr Tydfil— Telephone 129.		
For Cefn, Vaynor and Pontsticill Patients.		
Courtland Terrace Merthyr Tydfil	.. Mondays	.. 10 a.m.—Old Cases. 2 p.m.—New and Old cases.
	Wednesdays	.. 9.30—Contacts (by ap- pointment).
	Wednesdays	.. 2 p.m.—New and Old cases.
	Thursday	.. 2 p.m.—Children's Clinic.
	Fridays	.. 2 p.m.—A.P. Refill.
	1st Friday in month..	2 p.m.—Non - Pulmon- ary Consultation Clinic.
	Saturdays	.. 9.30 a.m. Asthma cases.
For Penderyn and Hirwaun Patients.		
42. Canon Street, Aberdare	.. Mondays & Thurs- days	.. 10 a.m. — New and old patients.

- | Name and Address
of Chest Clinic. | Dates of Attendance. | Times. |
|--|--|--|
| 3. Dr. R. G. Prosser Evans, "Clairwood," 2, Lower Cymla Road, Neath. | | |
| <u>Telephone, Neath 278.</u> | | |
| | For Pontneathvaughan. | |
| "Clairwood,"
2, Lower Cymla Rd.,
Neath | .. Mondays, Wednes-
days & Thursdays | 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon
Old and New Cases
New Cases by Ap-
pointment only |
| | Tuesdays, Wednesdays
and Thursdays .. } | 2 p.m.—Domiciliary
Visits, etc. |
| | Saturday | 9.30 a.m. |
| | 3rd Tuesday of each
month at 2 p.m. | B.C.G. Contact Clinic
After Care Clinic
(Orthopaedic) |
| | Tuesdays .. | Static Mass Radio-
graphy Sessions.
9.30 a.m. to 12 noon—
Females.
2 p.m.—4 p.m.—Males. |
| 4. Dr. F. W. Godbey, "Ennisclare," Llanarth Road, Pontllanfraith. | | |
| <u>Telephone—Blackwood 3281.</u> | | |
| "Ennisclare,"
Llanarth Road,
Pontllanfraith | .. Mondays | .. 10 a.m.
Old and New Cases
2 p.m. A.P. Clinic. |
| | Tuesdays .. | 10 a.m. and 2-30 p.m.
Tomography Clinic |
| Blaina and District Hospital, Nantyglo—Tuesdays, 11 a.m.
New and Old Patients (also for Brynmawr patients). | | |
| | Wednesdays .. | 10. a.m.—Old and
New Cases.
2.30 p.m.—Old Patients
—Bed Cases.
2.30 p.m. — Contact
and B.C.G. Clinic. |
| | Thursdays .. | 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
—Special X - ray
Appointments. |
| | Fridays .. | 10 a.m.—New and Old
Patients.
2.30 p.m. — Contact
and B.C.G. Clinic. |
| 5. Dr. M. I. Jackson, Chest Clinic, 129, Stow Hill, Newport. | | |
| <u>Telephone: Newport 66781.</u> | | |
| Maindiff Court Hospital, Thursdays, 10.30 a.m. New and old patients
Abergavenny. (By appointment
only). | | |

B.C.G. Vaccination.

The Chest Physicians undertaking duties in Breconshire still undertake the work of B.C.G. Vaccination in the County Areas under their control in respect of contact cases.

Since 1951 the following cases have been vaccinated:—

		By Chest Physicians. (mainly contacts).	By Medical Officers of County Council.
1951	...	99	Nil
1952	...	43	Nil
1953	...	72	Nil
1954	...	92	Nil
1955	...	104	126
1956	...	81	104
1957	...	101	346
1959	...	77	352

Under the Council's Amended Scheme which provided for the B.C.G. Vaccination of school children between their thirteenth and fourteenth birthdays, which was approved by the Welsh Board of Health on 16th March, 1954, the Medical Officers of the Authority carried out this work during 1958 and details are given in the table below. The children who were found to show a negative reaction on skin testing were given B.C.G. vaccination and arrangements were made for the positive reactors to have chest X-rays at the nearest Chest Clinic. A further visit was paid to each school at least seven weeks after B.C.G. Vaccination was done, when all those children who had been vaccinated were further skin tested to see if they had converted to positive.

SCHOOL	No. given skin test	Results		No. given B.C.G. Vacc	No. re-skin tested	No. converted to positive
		Positive	Negative			
Sennybridge C.P. ..	Skin tested at end of 1957				9	8
Crickhowell V.P. ..					11	11
Vaynor and Penderyn Bilateral ..					24	24
Ystradgynlais Comp. ..	103	12	91	91	77	76
Builth Bilateral ..	56	11	45	45	45	44
Brynmawr Cty Gram. and Mod. Sec. ..	102	18	84	84	74	74
Tymawr School ..	1	—	1	1		
Brecon Boys Cty Gram.	53	8	45	45	Re-skin tested in 1959	
Brecon Girls Cty Gram.	48	7	41	41		
Brecon Sec. Mod. ..	55	11	41	41		
Brecon Convent ..	5	1	4	4		
Totals ..	423	68	352	352	240	237

Chest X-rays.

Ysfradgynlais Comp	..	12	Satisfactory.
Builth Bilateral	..	10	Satisfactory.
Brynmawr Cty Gram. and Mod. Sec.	..	18	16 satisfactory, 2 for further X-ray.
Brecon Boys' Cty Gram.	..	8	Satisfactory.
Brecon Girls' Cty Gram.	..	5	2 did not need to be X-rayed, 3 satisfactory.
Brecon Mod. Sec.	..	8	Satisfactory.
Brecon Convent	..	1	Satisfactory.
		<hr/>	
Total	..	62	
		<hr/>	

The Mass Radiography Unit did not visit the County during 1958.

(2) Illness Generally—

Arrangements exist for the follow-up of all cases discharged from hospital and work in the after-care of patients is closely linked with Domestic Help and Home Nursing Services.

Nursing equipment and apparatus are loaned to patients direct by the local health authority free of charge. Items are also loaned by the St. John's Ambulance Association where the local health authority pays the loan charges. As well as meeting the actual loan charges for the nursing equipment and apparatus, the local health authority has assisted the St. John's Association by allowing the use of suitable premises for storage if possible, and by grants. In Llanwrtyd the British Red Cross have set up a Comforts Depot at the War Memorial Institute for which we have purchased the equipment.

During the year, in addition to the items which have been loaned to patients direct and by St. John and the British Red Cross, the following action has been taken to assist patients:—

<u>No. of cases.</u>	<u>Action taken.</u>
14	Extra nourishment.

In addition to the above known applications, the nurses have for their own use such items as air rings and rubber sheeting which are loaned to patients.

Orthopædic Work.

The treatment of orthopædic cases is undertaken and the services of Mr. A. O. Parker, the orthopædic specialist, Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff, and Mr. J. G. H. James, orthopædic specialist, Neath Hospital, who are officers of the Regional Hospital Board, are available. A full-time orthopædic sister, Miss I. B. Leefe, is on the staff of the local health authority.

Miss Leefe works in the fullest co-operation with the Hospital Service and assists at Mr. Parker's operation sessions at Brecon Hospital; the Hospital Management Committee re-imburse the local health authority for her services. Mr. James attends the Ystradgynlais Clinic. Both Mr. Parker and Miss Leefe will be retiring early in 1959.

Primarily the scheme for orthopædic treatment affords treatment for school children since before the National Health Service Act, it was a scheme sponsored by the Education Committee for school children. This is gradually including adults who are referred to the orthopædic sister by general practitioners though the treatment and supervision of adults must of necessity remain a very small proportion in view of the demands already made upon Miss Leefe's services by the school and under school age children.

The Surgeons pay special visits to the clinics arranged by the authority as required and during 1958 the following centres were visited showing the cases referred:—

CENTRE	Ystradgynlais				Brynmawr 16-6-58	Brecon 18-4-58
	19-3-58	18-6-58	17-9-58	10-12-58		
DATE OF EXAMINATION						
1. Number of Children called up for Examination ...	38	53	49	49	49	53
2. Number of Children Present and Examined ...	28	47	42	39	45	50
3. Number found not to require Treatment...	3	2	1	1	4	3
4. Number found to require Domiciliary or Clinic Treatment ...	16	41	38	35	41	43
5. Number found to require Hospital Treatment ...	1	2	2	2	...	4
6. For Further Observation ...	6	1	...	...	...	...
7. For X-Ray ...	2	1	1	1	...	...

VENEREAL DISEASES—

The authority's health visitors are available for the visiting of these cases to encourage them to keep up their attendance at special clinics and continue with the prescribed treatment.

Apart from any assistance as above, treatment of V.D. is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. There are no treatment centres in the County and patients attend at Swansea Mount Pleasant Hospital, Hereford General Hospital, Royal Gwent

Hospital, Newport, Cardiff Royal Infirmary, and Mardy Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil, and V.D. Clinic, 1, Belmont, Shrewsbury.

There were no cases of V.D. from Breconshire treated at the Mount Pleasant Hospital, Swansea, and no information has been received from other neighbouring hospitals.

CANCER—

During the year, 116 deaths were recorded, giving a death rate of 2.07 per 1,000 population, as compared with 111 and a death rate of 1.97 in 1957. Of the 116 there were 15 cases of lung cancer.

Figures of deaths from cancer, and the rate per 1,000 population over the last six years are given below:—

Year.	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 population.
1957	111	1.97
1956	106	1.88
1955	98	1.75
1954	113	2.03
1953	98	1.75
1952	108	1.95

Section 29.—DOMESTIC HELP—

The upward trend of expenditure still continues. It is capable of almost unlimited expansion and requires a firm hand to keep it under control, while at the same time giving the public a just measure to what they are entitled.

One of the great difficulties is that of conveyance of the domestic helps to and from their work in the rural areas and unless car transport is allowed, the need just cannot be met.

Supervision of the service remains a problem which has not really been solved. In hours worked per week you have the equivalent of forty whole-time people working throughout the County and though we know that many of these people are doing ~~fine~~ work and often doing it under difficulties, the fact remains that it is a personal service which cannot really be run from a central office without someone to contact the home and the domestic help and act as a liaison officer between the two.

A new Superintendent Nursing Officer was appointed on the 24th September, 1957, who, as well as being the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives, was also required to supervise the Domestic Help Scheme. Since taking up duties, however, she finds it impossible to devote as much time as is needed for this task and indeed any work done is only at the expense of her other duties.

It has, therefore, still been necessary to utilize the services of the Health Visitors in their respective areas for this work.

The cost of the service in 1957/58 was again over £23,000 and patients' contributions are insignificant. The scheme has worked well but it is dependent entirely upon the number of women throughout the county offering their services and this has not always been adequate to the demands in some areas.

The authority employs no whole-time domestic helps.

No. of Domestic Helps on roll at 31/12/58:—

(a) Whole-time	... Nil
(b) Part-time	... 237

No. of Domestic Helps employed at end of year... 146

Number of cases where Domestic Help was provided during the year, together with the yearly figures since 1954 for comparison:—

	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Confinement Cases (including illness of Expectant Mothers ..	11	21	21	21	31
Tuberculosis Cases ..	9	7	6	9	6
Chronic sick, including Aged and Infirm ..	267	225	198	164	154
Others ..	24	29	30	29	26
	<u>311</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>225</u>	<u>223</u>	<u>217</u>

The Domestic Help Service has increased during the last 10 years and a glance at the above figures over a period of 5 years is sufficient to indicate the accuracy of this statement, the demand in 1958 being nearly 50% greater than that of 1954. Taking stock of previous records we find that in 1949 only 122 cases were granted domestic help. Very little imagination is needed to realise the implication of these figures and the impact which the work must be having on the Department as a whole and particularly upon the Superintendent Nursing Officer in her capacity of Domestic Supervisor. As mentioned previously in this report, she is not able to give to this service the supervision which one would desire such a service to have or which such a service ought to have, and although in 1949, at the commencement of the scheme, it was thought to be possible for the supervision to be undertaken by the Superintendent Nursing Officer along with her other work, it certainly can not be claimed to be so now, and accordingly the amount of time to be devoted to this work must of necessity be curtailed and will have no true relation to the amount of time which is actually required to adequately supervise the service.

The cases alone have increased from 122 to 311, in a matter of 10 years, and, at the end of 1958, 191 of these cases were long standing ones which had been granted domestic help over 12 months previously.

The number of domestic helps employed at the end of the year was 146 and this number which is approximately equivalent to 40 whole-time persons would certainly appear to justify the employment of a whole-time Domestic Help Supervisor.

The service, however, is working well. Difficulties are met from time to time due mainly to the rural nature of the County. On the whole the former difficulty of securing domestic appears to be disappearing, persons are more readily available for this type of employment, and in one area of the County more domestic helps have been enrolled than are at present required.

Section 51.—MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

In accordance with the proposals under Section 51 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the responsibility in respect of mental illness and mental defectiveness has been assumed by the Mental Health Sub-Committee which is a sub-committee of the Health Committee, as follows:—

(1) Administration.

- (a) Committee responsible for Service.
Mental Health Sub-Committee.
- (b) Number and Qualifications of Staff employed in the Mental Health Service.

Dr. W. F. W. Betenson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., County Medical Officer of Health, is responsible for the work of ascertainment of mental defectives and administration. Dr. R. G. Evans, M.B., B.Ch., C.P.H., D.P.H., and Dr. C. M. Evans, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., are approved by the Council to act as approved doctors in the certification of mental defectives

One Psychiatric Social Worker is employed by the Border Hospital Management Committee (Regional Hospital Board) who also gives part of her services to Breconshire patients. Breconshire, Radnorshire, and Montgomeryshire, together with the Regional Hospital Board, have an agreement whereby each contributes a proportion of the salary of this officer, and her clerical assistant.

Five Duly Authorised Officers are engaged throughout the County, and these work in the five areas as follows:—

- (1) Brecon and Sennybridge.
- (2) Brynmawr and Crickhowell.
- (3) Builth and Talgarth.
- (4) Ystradgynlais.
- (5) Vaynor and Penderyn.

These officers give part-time service only and they are also Welfare Officers and Registrars of Births and Deaths

Although these officials only give part-time service in the Mental Health field, those at Brecon, Brynmawr and Hay are actually whole-time officials of the Council, whereas those at Vaynor and Penderyn and Ystradgynlais are only part-time officials.

- (c) Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Boards and Hospital Committees.

One Psychiatric Social Worker is employed in conjunction with the Board's Hospital Management Committee.

Doubtful cases of mental deficiency are referred to the psychiatrist. In this connection the Medical Superintendent of the Mid-Wales Mental Hospital gives every possible help.

Patients on trial from Mental Hospitals are supervised by the Psychiatric Social Worker, and in some instances patients on licence from institutions for mental defectives are also visited by her. Visits are also made by the health visitors for the area to mental defectives on licence.

- (d) Duties of the Local Health Authority under the Mental Treatment Act, Lunacy Acts and Mental Deficiency Acts, are carried out directly by officers of the Council, no duties being delegated to voluntary associations.

- (e) Training of Staff.

No arrangements exist for the training of staff.

(2) Account of Work Undertaken in the Community.

- (a) Section 28, National Health Service Act, 1946.

No occasion has arisen whereby the function of Section 28 has been necessary on account of mental illness or mental defectiveness. The services of domestic helps have, however, been allowed on account of the presence of a mental defective in the household.

- (b) Under Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 to 1930, by Duly Authorised Staff.

- (i) During the year the duly authorised officers carried out the necessary duties under Section 14 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, to effect the certification of patients under Section 16 and subsequent removal to Mental Hospitals in the following cases:—

Brecon and District	...	3
Brynmawr and Crickhowell District	...	2
Builth and Talgarth Districts	...	9
Ystradgynlais District	...	4
Vaynor and Penderyn District	...	0

- (ii) The following cases were also admitted to hospitals and in all cases the services of the duly authorised officers were available where required:—

Voluntary cases	... 126
Urgency orders	... —
Sec. 20 cases	... 7
Sec. 21 cases	... 1

- (iii) Other information—

- (a) Cases admitted to and discharged from Mental Hospital during 1958:

	Ad- mitted.	Dis- charged.	Died.
Certified Patients under Section 16 Lunacy Act, 1890	... 18	11	10
Voluntary Patients, under Section 1, Mental Treatment Act, 1930	... 126	103	7
Temporary Patients, under Section 5, Mental Treatment Act, 1930	... —	—	—
Patients under Sect. 20 Mental Treatment Act, 1930	... 7	7	—
Patients under Sect. 21, Mental Treatment Act, 1930	... 1	2	—

- (b) **Actual number of Breconshire patients in Mental Hospitals on the 31st December, 1958—**

	Male.	Female.	Total
Certified Patients	... 59	87	146
Voluntary Patients	... 44	51	95
Sec. 21 Patients	... —	—	—
	103	138	241

Note.—For names and addresses of Duly Authorised Officers see under heading, National Assistance Act, 1948 (Welfare Services)—Page 52.

- (c) **Under Mental Deficiency Act, 1913-1938—**

(1) The ascertainment of mental defectives is undertaken by the County Medical Officer of Health (Dr. W. F. W. Betenson), and the Deputy County Medical Officer (Dr. R. G. Evans), who have been approved by the Board of Education to undertake the ascertainment of mental defective children in accordance with Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944.

Mental defectives under statutory supervision and on licence are visited by the health visitors or in some instances by the Psychiatric Social Worker.

(2) Guardianship.

There are no patients under guardianship within the administrative county of Breconshire, neither are there any Breconshire cases under guardianship elsewhere.

(3) Arrangements for carrying out the statutory duty to provide occupation and training for defectives in the area.

The local health authority has no occupation or industrial centres for adults nor any method of home teaching. This matter has been under review by the Committee especially in regard to ineducable children.

This question was considered by the Mental Health Committee who decided to approach Cardiganshire, Montgomeryshire, and Radnorshire County Councils with a view to the provision of Residential accommodation being made for "ineducable children." Representatives of the four Authorities met in Llandrindod Wells in December, 1955, and again in January, 1956, when it was resolved that the respective County Authorities should be recommended to take steps as they might feel disposed in regard to the appointment of peripatetic teachers, pending the holding of a further conference, when a report could be considered as to what each Authority had been able to do.

The question was further considered by the Mental Health Committee, but owing to the scattered nature of the County, the long distances to be travelled by such a teacher, and the limited time which could be given to each case the Committee were of the opinion that the cost of providing such a service far outweighed any benefits likely to be derived by one or two patients. Most reluctantly therefore they were compelled to defer any action as originally envisaged or even in any modified form.

There is now, however, every indication that further favourable consideration is likely to be given to this question having regard to the Recommendations of the Royal Commission on Mental Health.

On the 31st December, 1958 there were registered in the County the following mental defectives:—

		Male.	Female.	Total
(a) Under Statutory Supervision—				
Under 16 years of age	...	8	6	14
Aged 16 years and over	...	39	40	79
(b) In Institutions—				
Under 16 years of age	...	5	—	5
Aged 16 years and over	...	15	18	33
(c) On Licence from Institutions—				
Under 16 years of age	...	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over	...	—	2	2
(d) Patients admitted to Hospital in the year—				
Under 16 years of age	...	2	—	2
Aged 16 years and over	...	—	4	4

Education Act, 1944, Section 57, and Education (Miscellaneous Provision) Act, 1948, Section 8.

One case notified to the Local Health Authority by the Education Committee, after being reviewed at the end of the year, was referred back to the Education Committee for reconsideration in accordance with the terms of Section 8 of the Miscellaneous Provision Act, 1948. The terms of this Section of the Act permits the withdrawal of a child being regarded as ineducable, and he or she can thus return to school locally or sent to a special School. The child has since been sent to Hawksworth Hall Assessment Centre by the Education Committee.

Section 15. M.D. Act, 1913—

St. David's Hospital, Brecon, is recognised as a place of safety under Section 15 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913.

It was not necessary during the year to secure a place of safety in respect of any defective.

Ambulance Services.—

The ambulance service for mentally ill patients is the same as set out in Section 27.

Mental Hospital—

The Regional Hospital Board has one hospital in the County, viz., the Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth.

The Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth, is recognised as a place of safety under Section 20 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, and patients in need of control can, therefore, be admitted and detained there for not more than three days. The hospital has accommodation for both males and females.

List of Doctors Approved under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930

The following Doctors have been approved by the Welsh Board of Health for the purpose of making recommendations under the provisions of the above Act until the 31st Dec., 1961.

- Dr. S. N. Chopra, Dunedin House, Alma Street, Brynmawr.
- Dr. T. L. Davies, Aelybryn, Llanhamlach, Brecon.
- Dr. G. Diggle, Chancefield, Talgarth.
- Dr. Brian J. Hand, Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth.
- Dr. D. L. Lees, Cantre Selyff, Lion Street, Brecon.
- Dr. D. Kyle, Glasfryn, Alexandra Road, Brecon.
- Dr. D. F. Cameron, Tyn-y-berllan, Builth Wells.
- Dr. J. K. Pugh, "Maesycloed," Builth Wells.
- Dr. C. M. Fenn, "Meadow Way," Llanwrttyd Wells.
- Dr. N. E. Mellings, "Wennetune," Sennybridge.
- Dr. R. F. Jayne, The Cottage, Talgarth.
- Dr. R. C. Humphreys, Pencader, Crickhowell.
- Dr. G. H. Beck, The Grange, Cefn Coed.
- Dr. W. Boladz, "Avondale," Ystradgynlais.
- Dr. E. W. Jones, "Brynhelig," Lower Cwmtwrch.

In addition to the above list the following Doctors who live outside the County have been approved for similar purposes:—

Merthyr Tydfil—Dr. S. Bloom, 108, Brecon Road, Merthyr Tydfil.
 Merthyr Tydfil—Dr. P. E. Cresswell, "Hillside," Dowlais.
 Glamorganshire—Dr. S. D. Stewart, "Cilbrwyn," Godrergrraig, Swansea.
 Monmouthshire—Dr. A. Brookes, Penylan, Beaufort.
 Carmarthenshire—Dr. F. W. Richards, "Glen View," Llandovery.

List of Doctors approved by the Mental Health Services Sub-Committee for the certification of Mental Defectives:—

Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913. Section 8 (2).

Dr. W. F. W. Betenson, County Medical Officer, Brecon.
 Dr. R. G. Evans, Deputy County Medical Officer, Brecon.
 Dr. C. M. Evans, Assistant County Medical Officer, Brecon.
 Dr. D. Kyle, Glasfryn, Alexandra Road, Brecon.
 Dr. D. F. Cameron, Tynyberllan, Builth Wells.
 Dr. J. K. Pugh, Maesycoed, Builth Wells.
 Dr. C. M. Fenn, "Meadow Way," Llanwrtyd Wells.
 Dr. N. E. Melling, "Wennetune," Sennybridge.
 Dr. R. F. Jayne, The Cottage, Talgarth.
 Dr. A. Brookes, Penylan, Beaufort.
 Dr. R. C. Humphreys, Pencader, Crickhowell.
 Dr. H. Beck, The Grange, Cefn Coed.
 Dr. S. Bloom, 108, Brecon Road, Merthyr Tydfil.
 Dr. P. E. Cresswell, Hillside, Dowlais.
 Dr. E. W. Jones, Brynhelig, Lower Cwmtwrch.
 Dr. W. Boladz, Avondale, Ystradgynlais.
 Dr. S. D. Stewart, Cilbrwyn, Godrergrraig, Swansea.
 Dr. G. W. Farrington, The Hermitage, Brynmawr.
 Dr. R. M. Farrington, The Hermitage, Brynmawr.

The report of Miss Gwendoline Morgan, the Psychiatric Social Worker, is given below:—

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORK IN BRECONSHIRE

For the Year January 1st to December 31st, 1958.

In the past year, attempts have been made to keep patients in their normal environment and at the same time give them the attention they need for their psychiatric disabilities. Out-patient treatment at the Mid-Wales Hospital and at the Brecon Clinic combined with home visits by the Psychiatric Social Worker have shown, that in certain cases, home life and employment need not be disrupted because of the mental ill-health of one member of the family. The "immature" and insecure type of patient who would readily escape from the difficulties of life by seeking refuge in hospital, has been given intensified support and encouragement so that he can gain sufficient confidence to face and make the most of reality.

Like all mental hospitals in the country, the Mid-Wales Hospital receives a considerable number of persons over the age of sixty years. Part of this group can sometimes be cared for

at home, providing help and advice is given to the relatives. Often a little explanation concerning the problems of the aged, encourages a family to maintain the confused and querulous "ancient" in the surroundings he has known and loved for many years and a balance of good will and tolerance is established by the mere fact that someone is prepared to listen to and sympathise with the problems that have arisen.

In the younger section of the mentally ill community, continued and valuable help has been received from kindred bodies dealing with social work. In particular, the Rehabilitation service of the Ministry of Labour has been helpful in providing training and work for patients leaving hospital. The sympathetic attitude and the ready co-operation of the Ministry's rehabilitation staff is greatly appreciated and I feel it should be generally known that the service they provide has made possible a new and better life for several persons who would otherwise be forced to return to the unsatisfactory existence that precipitated their mental breakdown.

In an attempt to gain the sympathetic understanding and co-operation of the general public, talks have been given to social organisations which can play an important role in helping to rehabilitate unstable and lonely people who have received psychiatric treatment.

Analysis of Work for the year.

Admissions to Mid-Wales Hospital	...	109
(No. of persons treated, 71. Of this number, 33 were re-admitted for further treatment and 5 died).		
Discharges from Mid-Wales Hospital	...	95
(No. of patients concerned, 45)		
No. of persons receiving after-care	...	67
1. No. of interviews with relatives for the purpose of obtaining case histories and personal information	...	52
2. After-care for psychotic and defective patients—No. of visits made	...	260
3. Enquiries for local authority and general kindred Social Work	...	35
Total number of visits made	...	374

(Signed) Gwendoline Morgan,
Psychiatric Social Worker.

12th June, 1959.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

I am indebted to the Welfare Department for supplying information of work under the National Assistance Act.

The Welfare Committee of the Council is responsible for the work under this Act.

Section 21 (i) (a)—Homes for the Aged.

Ashburnham House, Talgarth	... 15 beds
Brynhyfryd, Builth Wells	... 15 beds
Cockcroft House, Hay-on-Wye	... 60 beds
Crawshay House, Brynmawr	... 36 beds
"The Grove," Ystradgynlais	... 26 beds

Each home can provide accommodation for both male and female residents, and married couples. During the year 40 people have been admitted to Homes for the Aged in the County and 13 discharged (6 to hospitals). Twelve residents have died in the Homes. At present there is one Breconshire resident being maintained in a Home for the Aged which is administered by another local authority.

Section 21 (i) (b) Provision of Temporary Accommodation.

Temporary accommodation, for persons who are in urgent need thereof, being circumstances which could not reasonably have been foreseen, is provided at Welfare House, Llangattock.

Section 29 (1).

Under this section of the Act, a scheme for handicapped persons has been adopted. At present there are 51 people registered under the scheme. There are five handicapped persons in accommodation provided, on behalf of the County Council, by voluntary organisations.

Section 29. Welfare of the Blind and Partially-sighted.

A whole-time Welfare Officer and Home Teacher of the Blind and an Uncertificated Assistant are employed under the scheme for the welfare of blind and partially-sighted persons in the County. The Welfare Officer will visit anyone appearing to be suffering from seriously defective vision and, where necessary, arrange an examination by an Ophthalmic Surgeon with a view to certification, as a result of which the person's name is added to the appropriate register. These examinations are usually held at the Ophthalmic Surgeon's consulting room or clinic but where the person is housebound domiciliary visits are arranged.

During the year, the Ophthalmic Surgeons examined and completed Forms B.D.8 in respect of 51 persons, certifying as follows:—

Blind. P.S. Neither. Decert. Total

Mr. G. W. Hoare,					
Abergavenny	... 15	20	1	1	37
Mr. F. G. Hibbert, Swansea.	2	3	—	1	6
Mr. T. Stuart-Black Kelly,					
Hereford	... 2	—	—	1	3
Mr. H. F. T. MacFetridge,					
Hereford	... —	1	—	2	3
Mr. Roy Thomas, Swansea	... —	1	—	—	1
Mr. C. Fraser, Shrewsbury...	1	—	—	—	1
	20	25	1	5	51

13 of the examinations were domiciliary visits. Following 3 recommended re-examinations there were no changes in certification.

Number of cases registered during the year (not including re-examinations where no changes of category resulted) were 20 Blind and 20 partially-sighted persons.

	Causes of Disability.			
	Cataract.	Glaucoma.	Retrolental Fibroplasia.	Others.
No treatment recommended	5	2	Nil	10
Treatment (Medical, Surgical or Optical)	... 17	3	Nil	6
Treatment received	... 9	3	Nil	5

3 persons refused to have surgical treatment for cataracts and 1 person was certified medically unfit for operative treatment for cataracts. 1 partially-sighted person recommended for operative treatment was not medically fit.

Of 12 re-examinations following cataract operations, 5 blind persons were decertified altogether, and 4 blind persons were certified as partially-sighted. Several persons have had cataract operations recently and results are awaited.

Register of Blind and Partially-sighted Persons as at 31/12/58.

Age Groups	5-15	16-20	21-49	50-64	65 &	Total
Blind—						
Male	... 3	—	7	16	57	83
Female	.. 2	—	9	11	68	90
Total	... 5	—	16	27	125	173

Partially-sighted—

Male	... 1	1	1	9	24	36
Female	... 1	2	2	1	41	47
Total	... 2	3	3	10	65	83

Welfare Officers and Duly Authorised Officers in the County.—

- | | | |
|----|--|--|
| 1 | *Bryn-mawr, Llanelly Hill and Crickhowell. | Mr. D. J. Davies, Welfare Offices, Lower Bailey Street, Bryn-mawr. |
| 2. | Vaynor and Penderyn. | Mr. D. W. Chambers, Abertaf, Cefn Coed. |
| 3 | Ystradgynlais. | Mr. W. T. Davies, Station Road, Ystradgynlais. |
| 4. | *Brecknock and Defynnog. | Mr. H. G. Edwards, 13, The Watton, Brecon. |
| 5. | *Hay, Talgarth and Builth. | Mr W. B. Hargest, Mason's Arms, Talgarth. |

*Whole-time Officers.

MISCELLANEOUS—

Smallpox Hospitals. — Arrangements have been made for Smallpox Cases to be admitted to Penrhys Hospital and for Consultants to be called in to suspected cases. On diagnosing a case the Consultant will be responsible for arranging for Penrhys Hospital to be ready to receive the patient. In emergencies, where the consultants are not immediately available, a telephone call should be put through to the City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff (Telephone: Cardiff 21466), giving details to a responsible officer. The patient will be removed by the County Council under their Ambulance Scheme made under Section 27 of the N.H. Service Act, 1946.

Examinations of Staffs—The Medical Staff of the County Health Department are constantly being called upon to undertake, often at short notice, the examination of candidates for various County and Education appointments. This work interferes with the fixed programme and cancellations are frequently having to be made to enable such examinations to be done in order to report the finding to the appropriate Committee.

Your Medical Staff has been relieved of this work greatly during the year since the Education Committee has agreed to operate a scheme similar to one which is operated by Glamorgan County Council, and which is briefly as follows:—

Names of candidates selected for interview are forwarded to me. The candidates are then sent a record card to be completed by them stating any known defects or recent illness, etc., and finally they complete a declaration to the effect that the information given is in all respects true. On receipt of this completed record, consideration is given as to whether or not it is necessary for a further examination.

The cost of X-ray Examinations is borne by the Local Health Authority under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, with the exception of any X-Rays of Training College Candidates, in which case the cost is paid by the Ministry of Education.

Food and Drugs Act, 1955, Section 31.**Biological Sampling of Milk.**

Duties under the Food and Drugs Act in this County have been delegated to the Weights and Measures Department.

The Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures reports that during 1958, 53 samples were sent for biological examination.

Table I.—Vital Statistics for Various Districts for 1958.

Name of District.	Births				Nett Deaths belonging to the District				Deaths of Infants under 4 wks. of age		Deaths of Mothers		
	Live Births		Still Births *		At all ages		Under 1 y'r of age		Number	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Rate per 1,000 Births	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number.	Rate per 1000 Live Births					
									Population estimated to the middle of the year.	94	15.46	1	10.52	76	12.50	2	21.27	1	10.63
Brecon Urban	6080	100	16.57	3	29.12	88	13.70	5	50.00	4	40.00	..	..
Brynmawr Urban	6420	20	12.98	1	47.61	22	14.28	..	..	..	..	..	..
Builth Wells Urban	1540	16	11.18	1	58.82	27	18.88	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hay Urban ..	1430	5	10.00	..	..	16	32.00	..	..	..	..	..	..
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban ..	500	85	11.47	1	11.76	88	11.87	4	47.65	3	35.29	..	..
Brecon Rural	7410	37	11.01	3	81.08	36	10.71	..	..	..	..	..	..
Builth Rural ..	3360	122	15.25	2	16.12	77	9.62	2	16.39	1	8.19	..	..
Crickhowell Rural	8000	46	12.63	2	41.66	69	18.95	1	21.73	1	21.73	..	..
Hay Rural ..	3640	114	18.53	4	33.89	63	10.24	1	8.77	1	8.77	..	..
Vaynor and Penderdyn Rural	6150	157	13.68	5	31.84	128	11.15	2	12.73	1	6.36	..	..
Ystradgynlais Rural ..	11470												
Brecon County ..	56000	796	14.21	23	28.08	690	12.32	17	21.35	12	15.07	..	..
England and Wales..	..	..	16.4	..	21.6	..	11.7	..	22.5	..	16.2	..	0.43
Brecon County, 1957	56300	822	14.95	20	23.75	690	12.25	18	21.89	15	18.24	..	..

*The rate for Still Births is the rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births.

WHOLE COUNTY.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Table III.—Vital Statistics.

Causes of Deaths in the Separate Districts of the County.
during the year 1958.

Cause of Death.	URBAN					RURAL						TOTAL
	Brecon	Brynmawr	Builth Wells	Hay	Llanwrtyd Wells	Brecon	Builth	Crickhowell	Hay	Vaynor and Penderyn	Ystradgynlais	
1 Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	1	...	1	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	6
2 Tuberculosis, Other ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3 Syphilitic Disease ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
4 Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
6 Meningococcal Infection ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7 Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
8 Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9 Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
10 Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	1	4	...	1	...	1	2	3	1	1	5	19
11 Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus ...	1	...	1	1	...	1	...	4	2	1	4	15
12 Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1	1	...	...	...	3	...	1	...	3	2	11
13 Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	2
14 Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	8	8	2	...	1	7	5	12	5	5	16	69
15 Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	5
16 Diabetes ...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
17 Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	14	12	1	4	2	16	6	12	15	14	15	111
18 Coronary Disease, Angina ...	10	11	3	2	6	9	5	13	7	7	20	93
19 Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	1	3	1	1	10
20 Other Heart Disease ...	25	20	7	4	4	21	11	14	17	8	11	142
21 Other Circulatory Disease ...	5	2	2	1	...	4	1	1	1	2	10	29
22 Influenza ...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	3
23 Pneumonia ...	3	6	...	1	...	2	...	4	1	...	3	20
24 Bronchitis ...	2	11	2	2	...	3	...	2	1	4	5	32
25 Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4	10	18
26 Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	1	6
27 Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	3
28 Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	...	...	1	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	1	6
29 Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	4
30 Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
31 Congenital Malformations ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
32 Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases ...	3	4	...	5	1	7	...	4	6	9	10	49
33 Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	1	...	1	...	...	3	...	1	3	...	4	13
34 All Other Accidents ...	...	1	...	2	1	4	2	1	...	1	2	14
35 Suicide ...	1	...	...	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	4
36 Homicide and Operations of War ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	76	85	22	27	16	88	36	77	69	63	128	690
Totals, 1957 ...	83	74	35	16	8	79	31	75	74	69	146	690

Table IV.—Notifiable Diseases, 1958.

DISTRICT	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Food Poisoning	Pneumonia.	Acute Polio-myelitis		Erysipelas.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Abortus Fever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Measles.	Infective Eneephalitis.	Whooping Cough.	Salmonella	Malaria (Contracted Abroad).	Tuber-culosis		Dysentery	Meningococcal Infection	Para Typhoid	TOTALS
						Paralytic	Non-Paralytic										Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary				
Brecon Urban	..	4	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	150	..	1	..	..	1	3	..	..	..	162
Brynmawr Urban	..	7	..	..	5	2	..	2	..	..	..	78	..	36	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	133
Builth Wells Urban	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Hay Urban	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	2
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban	..	6	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	9	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	16
Brecon Rural	..	4	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	193	..	4	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	201
Builth Rural	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	21
Hay Rural	2	..	10	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	6
Orickhowell Rural	..	25	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	209	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	1	249
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	9	1	..	..	25
Ystradgynlais Rural	..	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	107	..	..	..	..	..	10	3	..	..	123
Totals	..	54	..	2	7	2	..	4	..	..	1	773	..	51	..	..	1	36	4	1	2	938
Total, 1957	..	8	..	..	23	4	1	3	..	..	..	416	1	26	..	..	2	23	6	..	1	514

Table V.—Tuberculosis.

Summary of Notification during the period from 1st January, 1958, to 31st December, 1958.

Notification on Form A.															
Number of Primary Notifications.															
Age Periods	{	...	Number of Primary Notifications.												(Total All Ages).
			0 to 1	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75		75 and upwards
Respiratory—Males...	1	..	...	3	...	2	2	4	7	3	2	24
" Females	2	.	1	2	1	1	3	2	..	1	..	13
Non-Respiratory—Males	1
" Females	1	...	...	...	...	1
Totals	3	...	1	5	1	3	6	6	7	4	2	38

Table VI.—Showing the work of the Health Visitors during the year 1958.

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF VISITS PAID										Totals		
	Pre-Natal Visits		First Visits		Total Visits		Visits to Children 1-2		Visits to Children 2-5			Others	First Visits Paid to Households during the Year
	Total Visits		To Children under 1		To Children under 1		Total		Total				
	First Visits	Total Visits	To Children under 1	Total Visits	First	Total	First	Total	First	Total			
Brecon Urban	38	12	96	553	13	288	7	278	133	139	139	1696	
Brynawr Urban	..	..	70	198	..	74	5	94	181	392	237	1251
Builth Urban and Rural (Part)	..	..	29	255	..	161	..	48	55	351	122	1021
Hay Urban and Rural (Part)	15	105	25	340	4	456	2	465	69	155	105	1741	
Llanwrtyd Urban and Builth Rural (Part)	..	..	15	166	2	159	1	184	54	292	81	954
Brecon Rural & Crickhowell Rural (Part)	8	12	116	558	46	247	29	433	65	257	186	1957	
Brecon Rural (Devynock, etc.)	7	2	40	191	15	142	12	109	99	50	63	730	
Brecon Rural (Part), Merthyr Cynog	1	..	41	276	..	123	..	262	27	27	101	858	
Builth Rural and Hay Rural (Erwood and Llysawen)	..	..	14	184	..	113	3	390	25	72	50	850
Builth Rural (Llanwrthwl)	..	..	2	55	..	49	..	119	..	..	20	245
Builth Rural (Llwyomadoc)	..	..	9	52	1	45	2	100	15	28	50	302
Builth Rural (Llyf-dinam, etc.)	..	..	4	27	1	20	..	93	..	..	20	165
Crickhowell Rural (Clydach and Gilwern)	..	..	27	120	9	45	5	116	14	98	117	551
Crickhowell Rural (Capel-y-fryn)	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	4
Crickhowell Rural (Darenfelen)	..	..	2	26	..	25	..	14	8	61	19	155
Hay Rural & Brecon Rural (Talgarth etc.)	18	225	31	394	1	123	6	164	103	5	2.9	1289	
Hay Rural (Glasbury and Llanigon)	11	..	42	282	36	194	27	58	17	1	99	767	
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural	52	10	139	780	3	422	9	773	184	112	667	3151	
Ystradgynlais Rural (Part)	..	..	89	695	2	576	2	579	130	314	642	3029
Ystradgynlais Rural (Abercraze) }	..	2	85	569	..	404	..	700	161	341	218	2500	
Ystradgynlais Rural (Colbren) }	20	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTALS	170	368	875	5721	135	3668	110	4979	1340	2695	3155	23216	

Table VII.—Dental Care of Mothers and Young Children, under Section 22, of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

(a) Numbers provided with Dental Care :—

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	126	124	136	95
Children under Five ...	51	42	42	31

(b) Forms of Dental Treatment Provided :—

	Scalings and Gum Treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures Provided		Radio-graphs
							Full Upper or Lower	Partial Upper or Lower	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	27	101	...	...	727	34	60	40	...
Children under Five	1	18	...	...	65	13	...	...	1

Table VIII.—Analysis of Premature Births (Live and Still) belonging to the County, 1958.

Premature babies born during the year (whose mothers normally reside in the area) including babies born in maternity homes and hospitals in or outside the County.

WEIGHT AT BIRTH		PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS.												Premature Still Births		
		* Born in Hospital			Born at Home and Nursed entirely at Home			Born at Home and Transferred to Hospital on or before 28th Day			Born in Nursing Home and Nursed entirely there			Born in Nursing Home and Transferred to Hospital on or before 28th Day		
		Total	Died within 24 hrs. of Birth	Survived 28 Days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of Birth	Survived 28 Days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of Birth	Survived 28 Days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of Birth	Survived 28 Days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of Birth	Survived 28 Days
3 lb. 4 ozs. or less		6	3	3	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Over 3 lb. 4 ozs. up to and including 4 lb. 6 ozs. ...		15	2	13	1	...	1	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	1
Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 ozs. ...		5	...	5	2	...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz. ...		18	...	18	11	...	10	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...
Totals		44	5	39	14	...	13	5	1	4	...	...	...	...	4	1

* The Group under this heading includes cases born in one Hospital and transferred to another.

Table IX—Telephone Numbers of Ambulance Stations serving the County.

AMBULANCE AREAS.	1st Call		
	(a)	(b)	(c)
(a) Brecon and District.—Including Sennybridge, Cray, Trallong, Llanfihangel Nantbran, Defynock, Llan-spyddid, Talybont, Llanfrynach, Llechfaen, Llan-hamlach, Merthyr Cynog, Llandefaelog, Llanddew, Battle, Aberyscir, Talyllyn, Llangorse, Llanfillo, etc.	Brecon 23	.. Crickhowell 397	.. Hay 19
(b) Builth and District.—Including, Llanwrtyd, Llandulas, Llanafan, Garth, Abergwessin, Llanganten, Llan-ynis, Maesmynis, Llanwrthwl, Llysdinam, Llan-dewi'r Cwm, Llangammarch Wells, etc.	Builth 3147	.. Llandrindod 2232	.. Hay 19
(c) Crickhowell and District.—Including, Bwlch, Llan-gynidr, Cwrndu, Gilwern, Llanbedr, Llangenny, Llangattock, etc.	Crickhowell 397	.. Brecon 23	.. Brynmawr 238
(d) Hay and Talgarth.—Including, Llanigon, Velindre, Tregoyd, Llandefalle, Bronllys, Pipton, etc.	Hay 19	..	Brecon 23 Hereford 4451 or Crickhowell 397
(e) Ystradgynlais, Abercrave, Penrhos, Cwmtwrch, etc.	Glantawe 2113	.. Gorseinon 359	.. Brecon 23
(f) Brynmawr, Clydach, Darenfelen, and Llanelly Hill, etc.	Brynmawr 238	.. Crickhowell 397	.. Caerleon 283
(g) Cefn Coed, Vaynor and Pontsticill	Merthyr 715 during Office hours only— 9 a.m. to 12.45 p.m. & 2.15 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. (Mondays to Fridays), and 9 a.m. to 12 noon (Saturdays).	.. Merthyr 475	..
(h) Hirwaun, Penderyn and Ystradfellte	Pontypridd 3166	..	..
(i) Pontneathvaughan	Neath 2213	..	..
(j) Carmarthen	Carmarthen 6666	..	.. between 7.30 a.m. & 11.30 p.m. At other times dial 999 and ask for Ambu- lance.
(k) Llandrindod	Llandrindod 2232	.. Rhayader 76	..

N.B.—These telephone numbers are not necessarily those exhibited in Post Office Telephone Exchanges for Emergency Calls, and all persons making emergency calls are advised to carry out the instructions in Kiosks and Telephone Directories.

